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# ARAB TIMES

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NO. 7517 TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1989 SHABAN 21, 1409 AH 18 PAGES 150 FILLS

## Yacht briefly detained: Iran

BAHRAIN, March 27. (Agencies): Iranian diplomatic sources in the Gulf said today the Iranian Coast Guard briefly detained last week a luxury yacht owned by an Arab tycoon with Gulf and European passengers on board, but released the vessel shortly afterwards.

The report of the seizure of the yacht first appeared in the Kuwaiti daily *Al Arab*.

However, in London, the British Foreign Office denied the report that four Britons and members of the Kuwaiti ruling family were on the yacht hijacked while sailing from Bahrain to Kuwait.

A Foreign Office spokesman this morning told Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) they had "no information whatsoever to verify any elements of the report."

He said British embassy officials in both Bahrain and Kuwait had investigated the details of the original newspaper story and found nothing to support it.

The Iranian sources said the yacht was detained on Thursday after straying into Iranian territorial waters in the northern Gulf.

"After a routine check, the boat was allowed to resume its journey with all passengers and crew on board," the source, who requested his name not be used, said, adding he had no information on whether the passengers aboard the yacht included members of Kuwaiti royal family.

KUNA quoted what it described as "authoritative Kuwaiti sources," who "categorically denied" that five members of the Kuwaiti royal family were aboard the vessel.

(Continued on Page 4, Col 2)

## Restrictions on Pakistani workers to be waived

By Ashraf Shad  
Arab Times staff

KUWAIT, March 27. Kuwait has assured Pakistan that it will permit Pakistani workers to come here to work, Malik Mukhtar Awan, the Pakistani Minister for Labour and Manpower said today.

Awan, who is visiting Kuwait, also said that the assurance was given by Kuwait's Minister for Social Welfare and Labour, Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed.

Awan met Sheikh Nasser today to discuss labour issues and other matters of mutual interest.

Two committees of experts, representing Pakistan and Kuwait, are currently holding talks on manpower requirements of Kuwait.

While talking to the press at a luncheon meeting with Pakistani exchange and finance companies, Awan said that 50 vocational centres are being established throughout Pakistan to improve the skill of Pakistani labour who will be sent overseas for taking up employment.

He said that such centres will also be established in countries where the bulk of Pakistani manpower is concentrated. He went on to state that the Libyan government has already agreed to give full co-operation towards establishing these centres there.

Awan also said that his ministry is also planning to form a bank with mobile banking system to deliver money at the doorsteps of the families of the expatriate workers. Such a system is intended to cut down illegal channels of money transfer from abroad, he added.

Meanwhile, the Pakistani Ambassador to Kuwait, Zahid Said thanked his HH the Amir for sending his advisor Mohammad Sulaiman Said Ali to a reception held to mark Pakistan Day.

## Demand for oil to increase: Ali

Call for raising OPEC output

MANAMA, March 27. (Agencies): Kuwait says it expects demand for OPEC crude oil to increase and called for a substantial rise in the organisation's output for the second half of this year, an oil industry newsletter reported today.

Kuwait Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah said that in view of current buoyant prospects for demand, OPEC's crude oil production ceiling currently standing at 18.5 million barrels a day for the first half of 1989 should be raised by at least 1.5 million barrels a day for the second half of this year.

## Ozal will stay on despite setback

Opposition wins in local polls

ANKARA, March 27. (AP): Premier Turgut Ozal said today he would not quit despite a resounding defeat for his Motherland Party in nationwide local elections.

The governing party came in third in yesterday's provincial assembly elections — which most resemble Parliament polls — behind the chief opposition leftist Social Democrat Populist Party and the conservative True Path Party of former six-time premier Suleyman Demirel, nearly complete unofficial returns showed today.

Voters elected more than 326,000 mayors, provincial assembly members, city council members, village leaders and neighbourhood representatives. But Ozal's party won only three mayorships in Turkey's 67 provincial capitals, according to the returns.

Opposition parties had cast the voting as a referendum on Ozal's free-market economic policies. Ozal had said he would quit if opposition gains were large enough to make it difficult for him to govern.

But today, Ozal said he would stay on until the next elections scheduled for 1992.

"The nation gave us a mandate until 1992, we will be serving the nation until then... the 61-year-old premier told a news conference.

"The people knew the party in power would not change as a result of these elections. They wanted to give us a message: to bring down inflation faster," the premier said.

"A little warning was intended by the voters but it went a bit too far," he added.

Ozal promised a cabinet shuffle sometime this week.

Earlier today, Demirel told the news conference: "He said he would pack up and go and if he is true to his word he should do so."

"I am sure he will not try to run

"I think the increase in OPEC production this year ought to be better than one million barrels per day, especially starting from the low level of the first six months," Sheikh Ali told the Cyprus-based Middle East Economic Survey.

"In the second half we ought to be talking of an increase of at least 1.5 million barrels a day," Sheikh Ali said the OPEC should now try tackling the quota problems of countries such as Kuwait and the UAE after solving last November the short-term problems of Iraq and Iran.

He told MEES this would require distributing an extra 600,000-700,000 barrels a day for quota adjustments, the bulk of which would go to the UAE and Kuwait.

Sheikh Ali said that given an overall increase in the OPEC ceiling of 1.5 million barrels a day in the second half of 1989, this would leave nearly one million barrels a day for proportional distribution among the 13 OPEC member states.

He said that if distribution problems were solved, "we would have peace for the next three or four years... otherwise there (will) always be continuous non-adherence to quotas."

OPEC's next regular conference to discuss quotas for the second half of 1989 is scheduled for June 5 in Vienna.

The Kuwaiti oil minister said he was very optimistic about the demand growth prospects for OPEC oil, indicating that he would not be surprised to see demand for OPEC crude reach the neighbourhood of 24 million barrels per day by 1992 or 1993.

"If we are intelligent enough, it will have very little effect on prices since we still have a great deal of capacity to go," he said.

"Since this growth is still in its infancy, it would be foolish to kill it while it is still in its infancy. If you increase the price of oil, you will do two things: kill the budding demand and increase non-OPEC supply."

US oil prices shot up today in early trading spurred by fears that the largest spill in American history would cut into Alaskan production.

See OPEC to discuss output Page 9



Ozal casts his vote in Ankara, as his wife waits for her turn. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Yeltsin landslide

MOSCOW, March 27. (UPI): Maverick candidate Boris Yeltsin swept to a landslide victory today in his fight for a parliamentary seat in the first ever multi-candidate elections in the Soviet Union, taking 89 per cent of the vote in Moscow, according to official results.

See Yeltsin sweeps Page 2

Yeltsin waves to reporters from a car. (Reuters wirephoto)

the country on support based on 22 per cent of the votes," Demirel added.

(See Magic touch lost Page 6)



Awaiting food supplies

Afghan children and mothers are packed behind the fences of a clinic in the suburbs of Kabul, as they wait for food supplies delivered by the UN. (Reuters wirephoto)

See Hekmatyar injured Page 4

## Iraq signs security pact with the Saudis

CAIRO, March 27. (Agencies): King Fahd of Saudi Arabia arrived today from the Iraqi capital of Baghdad for a four-day official visit and talks with President Hosni Mubarak on prospects of promoting peace in the Middle East and boosting Saudi-Egyptian co-operation.

Fahd was warmly embraced by Mubarak upon his arrival, broadcast live on Egyptian television and radio. Roaring jets flew over Cairo International Airport in a salute to the monarch.

Fahd arrived from Baghdad where he held summit talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on Saturday and today.

Fahd today signed a security agreement and a separate non-aggression accord with Saddam.

The official Iraqi News Agency said the first accord signed today commits Iraq and Saudi Arabia to "non-interference in each other's domestic affairs."

It also "prohibits the use of force between the two brotherly Gulf neighbours" and urges resolving any disputes through "peaceful negotiations."

The fourth clause of the accord, INA said, states that the agreement "takes effect immediately after it is ratified through normal channels" in both countries.

The second agreement, the agency said, "deals with security co-operation. It calls for the establishment of special committees to oversee implementation of this accord."

Fahd also pledged to finance the multi-million dollar reconstruction of an Iraqi nuclear reactor.

See healing differences Page 6

## Last-ditch effort to save Lebanon

Fighting worsens

TUNIS, March 27. (Agencies): A good offices committee of the Arab League gathered today to make another last-ditch effort to mediate in the Lebanon conflict despite the worsening fighting between Christian and Muslim forces there.

The committee arranged to meet in Tunis with several Lebanese politicians this evening, including former Lebanese President Amin Gemayel and Suleiman Franjiyeh, former Lebanese Prime Ministers Amine Hafez, Rashid Solh, Shafic Wazzan and Saheb Salman Ains as well as former Lebanese Parliament President Asel Ousseifane, Arab League sources said.

The discussions were expected to go into the early hours Tuesday, the sources said.

Most of the politicians arrived in Tunis after holding talks in Damascus, the Syrian capital.

The Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah presides over the Arab League committee on the Lebanon crisis and the other members are the foreign ministers of Jordan, Sudan, Algeria, Tunisia, and the UAE emirates together with the Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi.

The Arab League mediators are looking for ways to elect a new president and reconcile the rival governments of Maronite Christian Michel Aoun and Sunni Muslim Selim Hoss.

Their task has added urgency in view of the battles, the most serious civil war fighting in five years, between Aoun's Army in East Beirut and Muslim militias in West Beirut.

Sporadic artillery blasts reverberated across Beirut today.

Police said Syrian and allied Druze gunners lobbed intermittent rocket volleys from multi-barrelled launchers into East Beirut and the Christian heartland northeast of the capital all day.

In Tunis, the League mediation panel sent appeals for an immediate ceasefire to the Syrian government of President Hafez Assad as well as the Lebanese belligerents, Beirut radio stations said.

## Report released Dhawan: suspect in Indira murder

NEW DELHI, March 27. (Agencies): The government today released a secret report that linked a powerful aide to the 1984 assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and suggested a foreign power played a role in her murder. The report accused 22 officials of "lapses and dereliction of duty."

The report also concluded Indira's murder could have been prevented by high-ranking officials who were aware of the threat to her life.

The government for nearly three years withheld the findings of a special commission appointed to investigate Indira's assassination. But today, Parliament rescinded the resolution, and the government turned over copies of the November 1985 interim report and the final 314-page version to lawmakers of the Lok Sabha, the lower house, to extinguish the furor sparked by a newspaper report two weeks ago.

In releasing the report, Home Minister Bata Singh said another special investigating team also had "unravelling a conspiracy."

Indira was shot and killed by two Sikh bodyguards on Oct 31, 1984, as she walked through the garden of her New Delhi residence to a television interview.

The report directly linked only three people with her death — the two assassins and Rajendra Kumar Dhawan, Indira's personal secretary for more than 20 years.

The commission accused Dhawan of facilitating Indira's murder, noting he countermanded an order to remove all Sikhs from the inner security circle, approved shift changes for one of the assassins and changed the time of her television interview. It also said that Dhawan fell back before the fatal shots were fired.

"It appears that he has been making a deliberate effort to emphasise that he had not noticed (one of the assassins) Beant Singh taking out his revolver from his hip pocket. This is another circumstance which points at his guilty conscience."

The report also noted that Dhawan was close to a Sikh with suspected ties to the US Central Intelligence Agency, and "the possibility of someone else being involved along with Mr Dhawan cannot be excluded."

Dhawan, 52, left his post shortly after Indira's death but returned to the government last month as a key adviser to her son and successor, Rajiv Gandhi.

(Continued on Page 4, Col 7)

## Knowledge of bomber denied

LONDON, March 27. (UPI): A British newspaper reported yesterday that US intelligence knows who was behind the Dec 19 holiday of Pan Am Flight 103 over Scotland and is making plans to capture the suspects and bring them to the United States for trial.

But White House and State Department officials discounted the Times report, denying the United States knows who bombed the Boeing.

The Sunday Times, quoting unnamed US intelligence sources, said the bombing was carried out by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.

## DAY BY DAY

IT is good that the Public Institution for Social Security does not include non-Kuwaitis in its salary-deducting programme for the social security scheme. On leaving Kuwait, non-Kuwaitis like to have their indemnities in cash in order to use them at home, thereby providing their own security by themselves. Social Security is for Kuwaitis only, as it is a form of guarantee for them when they become old and retire.

Zahed Matar

## Two policemen killed in Kosovo

Curfew imposed after violent clashes

BELGRADE, March 27. (Agencies): A second Yugoslav policeman was shot dead today in riots in the country's tense Kosovo province. Tanjug news agency reported.

It said the officer, Milorad Tanaskovic, was shot by unknown assailants in Titova Mitrovica, a mining town near the provincial capital Pristina.

Earlier a municipal police chief was shot and killed in the town of Podujevo in mounting protests against moves to curb Kosovo's regional autonomy.

A demonstrator was also killed in clashes at Titova Mitrovica, 230 km (155 miles) south of Belgrade, Belgrade Radio said.

As a result of the latest violence, Kosovo authorities ordered a curfew in the province.

A Kosovo Interior Ministry statement, obtained by Yugoslav journalists, ordered limits on population movements, closed all public gathering points, and said people would be banned from moving at certain times in some places. It did not specify when or where.

Earlier, gunfire erupted on the outskirts of Pristina, 220 km (135 miles) south of Belgrade, as hundreds of rioters battled police on the fifth day of unrest, the worst violence Yugoslavia has seen since at least nine died in separatist riots in 1981.

Riots were reported across the predominantly Albanian province.

The curfew statement said: "The Interior Ministry of Kosovo, according to its competences determined by law, will ban or limit on the territory of the province, the following: The gathering of people at or access by people to public places, the movement of three or more people in public places, and the movement of people at a certain time or place."

It also closed all schools and the university, cinemas and theatres, and banned all cultural and public gatherings, including markets, until further notice.

The statement said the curfew was effective immediately and would last as long as "the circumstances which forced it to be implemented."

Yugoslav Air Force jets and Army helicopters flew over towns in Kosovo.



Appeal

New Zealander Lorraine Phyllis Cohen (left) escorted by Malaysian prison officials, arrives at the Kuala Lumpur Supreme Court to appeal against a death sentence for drug trafficking. Lorraine was arrested together with her son Aaron at Penang airport in February 1985. (Reuters wirephoto)

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں

- پاکستانی وزیر محنت کی کویتی حکام سے بات چیت
- برطانوی وزیر خارجہ باؤن کا دورہ پاکستان
- ترکی کے انتخابات میں
- عمران پادری کی شکست

## WEATHER

CLOUDY and rainy weather with a chance for thunderstorm with light to moderate south-easterly wind.  
State of sea: slight to moderate.  
High water: 4.00 am, 3.00 pm  
Low water: 9.00 am, 10.00 pm  
Sunrise: 5.43 am  
Sunset: 6.04 pm  
Maximum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 36°C 79°F  
Ahmad: 34°C 75°F  
Faiyala: 24°C 75°F  
Minimum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 16°C 61°F  
Ahmad: 17°C 63°F  
Faiyala: 15°C 59°F  
Maximum temperatures expected:  
Kuwait: 26°C 79°F  
Ahmad: 24°C 75°F  
Faiyala: 24°C 75°F  
Minimum humidity recorded:  
Kuwait: 57 per cent  
Ahmad: 74 per cent  
Faiyala: 80 per cent

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Four die in fighting

JOHANNESBURG, March 27. (Reuters): South African police said four black men were killed in weekend unrest in Natal province, scene of bitter fighting between rival factions.

In Riverview outside Pinetown near Durban two men died yesterday when a group raided a shop, stealing the stock and wrecking the building, police said on Monday.

## Rebel outpost captured

BANGKOK, March 27. (UPI): Burmese soldiers backed by artillery captured a rebel outpost in fierce fighting that left more than 100 combatants dead and some 200 wounded. Burmese radio and a military source said today.

A border military source said about 1,200 Burmese government troops backed by 105mm artillery and mortars overran the Karen National Union (KNU) base at Mawpokay yesterday morning after a three-day battle.

## Sharon issues appeal

SAN DIEGO, March 27. (AP): The wife of a Navy captain who mistakenly shot down an Iranian airliner with 290 people on board began appearing on television today in spots aimed at finding

whoever planted a bomb that destroyed her van. Authorities believe the bomb, which exploded while Sharon Rogers was driving the van on March 10, might have been the work of terrorists.



The Turks waiting in Vienna airport to be transferred to a camp for refugees. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Three days in airport lounge

VIENNA, March 27. (Reuters): Austrian Interior Minister Franz Loeschak today ordered 76 Turks who were held in an airport lounge for three days to be transferred to a refugee camp.

Since Friday immigration officials have detained about 100 Turkish men at Vienna's Schwechat airport on arrival from Istanbul, an Interior Ministry spokesman said.

# 10 killed Prison rioters take 500 hostage

GUATEMALA CITY, March 27. (Reuters): Armed inmates held more than 500 women and children hostage today after taking over a Guatemalan prison in a riot that killed 10 people and injured 50, a prisons official said.

Conrado Monroy, spokesman for the national prison system, said 375 women, 154 children and seven men were held hostage at El Pavon maximum security prison outside the capital.

The hostages were visiting the prison on Easter Sunday when inmates raided the main guard station, confiscated about 250 rifles and took over the prison.

Monroy said three warders and seven inmates were killed and about 50 prisoners, warders and visitors were injured in an exchange of gunfire that lasted three hours.

Two fire service officials who had been conducting negotiations with the inmates were also taken hostage at 2 am (0800 GMT), almost 14 hours after the rioting started.

The prisoners have demanded negotiations with state-appointed human rights ombudsman, Oscar Menéndez de la Riva, independent human rights leaders Nineth de Garcia and a representative of Amnesty International, Monroy said.

They are seeking a general amnesty or reduction of sentences, removal of the prison's director and improved living conditions, he said.

A Guatemalan journalist who entered the prison and talked to rioting inmates said an estimated 200 prisoners were armed.

"I think this is going to go on for a long time," said journalist Ricardo Gatica. "They feel they are in a strong position."

Marco Antonio Rosales, a visitor held hostage for seven hours before being released with his injured wife, described the riot. "It was like being hit with a flood of water...at about 12:30 pm everybody started running and we ran to the church (inside the prison)."

About 1,500 security agents, including soldiers and police, were posted outside the prison last night.

The inmates, after talking with two high ranking fire service officials, had agreed to allow rescue workers to take away the injured last night.

Monroy said inmates took advantage of the guards' shift change to seize the warders' weapons and take over the prison.

Two warders were guarding weapons left by an earlier shift when a group of inmates broke in and killed them, he said.

## Third incident

## Boeing returns after problems

AUCKLAND, March 27. (Reuters): A United Airlines Boeing 747 carrying 301 passengers to Honolulu was forced to turn back to New Zealand today with engine problems, the airline said.

It was the third incident involving a United Airlines jumbo on a Pacific route in just over a month.

The pilot shut down an engine while still climbing out of Auckland after he received indications it was not working properly, United Airlines spokesman Sean McNamara said.

The pilot dumped part of the fuel and flew the plane on its remaining three engines, landing back at Auckland at 8:20 pm (0820 GMT) 35 minutes after taking off.

## Man detained for bomb warning

NEW YORK, March 27. (AP): A man was arrested after falsely reporting that he had placed a bomb aboard a Pan American World Airways flight from New York to London, police at Kennedy airport said today.

A Pan Am spokesman said the threat was determined to be a hoax and the flight was unaffected.

The man called the Port Authority police information centre at Kennedy at 9:44 pm (0244 GMT) yesterday and told the operator that he had placed a bomb on Pan Am Flight 102 to London, said Port Authority police officer Sal Borgese.

## Tutwiler

WASHINGTON, March 27. (AP): Margaret Tutwiler made her debut as State Department spokeswoman today, cautioning reporters that she was not knowledgeable about foreign policy and asking their "patience and understanding."

# Communists will be able to hold office

## Filipinos to elect local councils

MANILA, March 27. (UPI): Filipinos will elect local councils tomorrow in the nation's 41,000 districts and villages, the last stage of President Corazon Aquino's plan to return the country to full democracy.

Aquino said today that any communist guerrillas elected would be allowed to hold office.

Voting centres were scheduled to open at 7 am (2300 GMT) and Hilario Davide, chairman of the government commission on elections, predicted a heavy turnout among an estimated 29 million voters.

The 160,000-member armed forces were placed on red alert — the maximum state of readiness — for possible disturbances by communist guerrillas. A nationwide liquor ban also went into effect carrying a penalty of six years imprisonment for scoff-laws.

News reports said six candidates were killed in the 10-day campaign, but the military confirmed only three slayings and said they had nothing to do with the elections.

A government report said a policeman and jail guard exchanged gunfire while arguing during a rally in Lucena city southeast of Manila yesterday, wounding nine civilians in the crossfire.

However, officials said they expected generally peaceful and orderly balloting, except in some "hotspots" where rebels operate.

Although non-partisan, the elections are contested by the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines. A military report said the communists hope to win 60 per cent of the races.

On the eve of the election, Aquino said guerrillas legally elected would be allowed to hold office.

"I hope they will abide by the law," said Aquino.

In a statement today, the National Democratic Front, the political arm of the Communist Party, called on Filipinos to rally behind the NPA and "end US imperialist domination and the prolonged oppression and exploitation by the local ruling

classes."

The Philippines' election watchdog urged voters to reject communist candidates.

Vicente de Lima, executive director of the Commission on Elections said: "We hope the people will realise that in this democratic struggle, those who are for democracy will prevail."

The communists have been battling the government for 20 years.

In the latest incidents of rebel violence, the military said guerrillas shot and killed a judge and a councillor, and Army troops killed 40 rebels in two



A teacher, who will act as a voting monitor, brings a ballot box to school precinct. (Reuters wirephoto)

encounters in the central islands of Samar and Leyte yesterday.

Ousted President Ferdinand Marcos, currently in exile in the United States, used the barangays, or village councils, as political bases to keep himself in power for 20 years, using them in rigged referendums during the martial law years of the 1970s.

Each barangay council has seven members and the highest vote getter is automatically made village chief. Officials said some one million candidates were vying for more than 280,000 council seats.

Kim, head of the opposition party for peace and democracy, said it would be premature to conduct a referendum since Roh has not fully carried out all of the democratic reforms he promised before taking office.

Many observers believed Kim did not want a referendum because polls showed rival opposition leader Kim Young-Sam ahead of him in popularity.

● A dissident protestant minister Rev. Moon Ik-Hwan, who made an unauthorised trip to North Korea will be arrested on his return for violating national security laws, government sources said today.

# Kim warns of rightist plot to block democracy

SEOUL, March 27. (AP): Korean opposition leader Kim Dae-Jung said today that "ultra-rightists" within the government and military are deeply opposed to democracy in South Korea and are willing to use force to retain control.

Elements within the government who support South Korea's democratisation, but rightist hard-liners are trying to block the shift to democracy, Kim told the Seoul foreign press club. The rightists fear losing their hold on power, he said.

"The ultra-rightist group in our country is attempting to bring about a catastrophe by any means," Kim said. "They feel as if their throats are being choked by a series of democratic reforms."

Kim urged President Roh Tae-Woo to persist with democratic reforms and said he should sever ties with right-wingers in the government, military and ruling party. But he declined to further identify the groups further.

Kim said he urged Roh to call off a promised midterm referendum on the President's performance because it could have plunged the nation into chaos and allowed right-wingers to take control. Roh announced March 20 that he was postponing the referendum indefinitely.

In calling off the referendum, Roh warned violent leftist radicals were plotting to stage a revolution. But it was not clear if Roh could have won the referendum and defeat could have forced new presidential elections.

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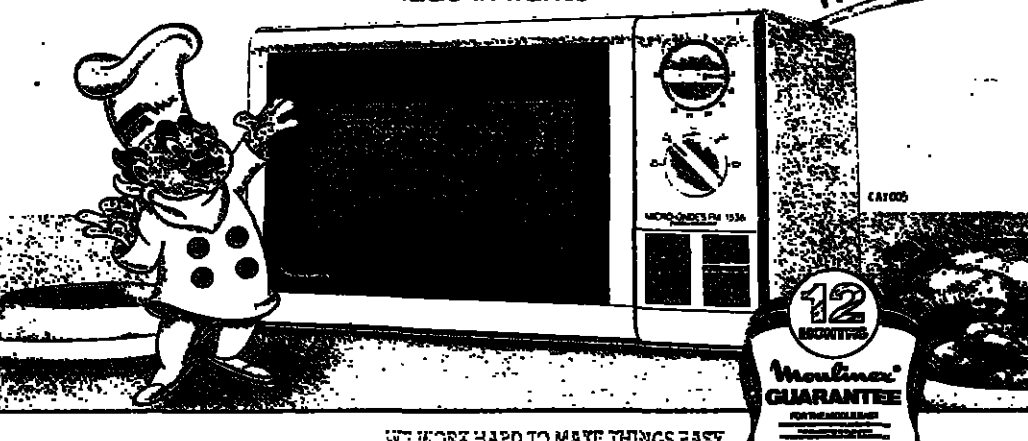
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# Third incident Boeing returns after problems

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Cosmonaut

MOSCOW, March 27. (AP): Someone at an Army draft centre who insisted on summoning Sergei Krikalev apparently didn't know where to find the cosmonaut, though he and his extraterrestrial whereabouts mentioned in Soviet news media almost daily. Krikalev told Moscow Radio yesterday that several written orders demanding he report to the center have arrived at his home over the past four months, the official Tass news agency reported. The cosmonaut never received them, of course. He has been in orbit aboard the space station MIR for four months.

Tourist wounded

STROMBOLI, Sicily, March 27. (AP): A West German tourist fell and broke her arm as she fled a shower of ash and stone that spewed from the volcano on the Aeolian Island of Stromboli yesterday, the Italian News agency ANSA reported. The volcano, which dominates the tiny, lush island north of Sicily, has been relatively inactive for about three years, ANSA said, although it gives off almost daily displays of flame and smoke, to the delight of tourists who ascend its slopes with guides to watch the spectacle.

Soviet coup report

MOSCOW, March 27. (Reuters): Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Yazov brushed aside with a wisecrack an American press report that he might have tried to stage a coup against Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev. "I've never even thought of it," the tall, burly general told reporters with a grin at the polling station where he cast his vote in the Soviet general elections.

Ballet star dies

MOSCOW, March 27. (AP): Soviet ballet star Maris Lipa, who dazzled the crowds both on stage and off, has died of a heart attack at the age of 52, Tass reported. Lipa, who danced in Moscow's Bolshoi Ballet, died Saturday, the official news agency reported. Lipa, a native of the Soviet Republic of Latvia, was known as a glamorous, charismatic dancer whose charm was not lost off the stage.

# Rising winds hampering efforts to clean up oil spill

## State of emergency declared

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, March 27. (Reuters): The worst oil spill in North America grew to 100 square miles (260 sq km) today, the US Coast Guard said, and rising winds threatened to hamper efforts to clean up one of America's richest marine waterways.

Alaska Governor Steve Cowper declared a state of emergency and



Fred Kampkoff, a resident of the village of Tatitlek on oil-fouled Prince Sound, checks out an oil containment boom washed ashore on Bligh Island. (Reuters wirephoto)

crews began burning some of the 11 million gallons of oil that gushed from the Exxon Valdez when it ran aground in Prince William Sound on Friday.

The Exxon Shipping Co, which owns the Exxon Valdez, said an unqualified third mate was in charge of the 987-foot (312-metre) ship at the time of the accident.

Exxon Shipping Co president Frank Iarossi told reporters Captain Joseph Hazelwood, 44, went below as the ship headed for the open sea and handed control to third mate Greg Cousins.

The ship had loaded with crude oil at Valdez, the southern terminal of the Alaska pipeline which supplies about 20 per cent of US oil. Officials said it would take up to a week to remove the one million barrels of crude left on the Exxon Valdez.

**Oil prices**  
Crude oil prices soared above the \$19 level in Tokyo trading today for the first time in 18 months on news that the spill closed Prince William Sound to commercial ships.

The Alaskan department of environmental conservation said that tanker traffic could resume by Wednesday, or by Friday at the latest.

The US Coast Guard said winds up to 35 miles per hour (55 kph) would make it more difficult for 200 workers to deploy booms around the oil.

Coast Guard spokesman Todd Nelson said Exxon, which has taken charge of cleaning up the spill, appeared to be having success with the experimental burning of oil.

But environmentalists were worried that the accident had seriously damaged valuable fishing grounds and teeming marine life in the sound, 100 miles (160 km) southeast of Anchorage.

Exxon was setting up centres where soiled birds and mammals could be cleaned but there was no accurate count of how many would need help.

**Birds**  
Al Mackay, an environmental scientist with Exxon USA, said 20 birds soiled with oil were spotted over the weekend. He said they would be picked up today and taken to the centres.

"This oil spill may well be the greatest disaster to hit Alaska since the Good Friday earthquake 25 years ago (that killed 114 people)," Cowper said in a statement.

"It requires the most thorough response we can muster."

"There were some things that were done wrong," Exxon spokesman Brian Dunphy said. "It's Exxon's policy that the captain should be on the bridge where they were located in the waters. He was not on the bridge."

An investigation team from the national transportation safety board spent four hours on board the ship.

# S. Africa's black political activist suspends his fast on 38th day

JOHANNESBURG, March 27. (UPI): The longest participant in a hunger strike among political prisoners detained without charge said he was suspending his fast on its 38th day today pending further negotiations with the government on his release.

Sandile Thusi, 26, a black researcher at the University of Natal and community activist,

said in a statement released through lawyers that he would break the hunger strike after his morning prayers with members of his family.

Reported to have lost 57.2 pounds (26 kg) since he began the hunger strike, Thusi remains in the intensive care unit of St. Aiden's Hospital in Durban. He has been on a drip in recent days, halting his weight loss.

"No medicine can cure me. The only cure for me is to be released," Thusi's statement said.

**Details**  
"There is a willingness on the part of both sides to negotiate. No decision has been made on whether to resume the hunger strike if I am not released," he added.

Thusi's lawyer, Daya Pillay,

was unable to immediately confirm that the activist had suspended his hunger strike today as promised and declined to comment on details of the negotiations for his release.

"There are negotiations pending at the moment, but I can't say that he will be released," she said.

Thusi, detained for the past eight months, was among more than 300 political prisoners who

# Fusion details soon

LONDON, March 27. (AP): British chemist Martin Fleischmann, who claims to have made a major breakthrough and achieved energy-producing nuclear fusion in a laboratory has urged scientists to wait for his written explanation before trying to reproduce the experiment.

"It is quite easy to set it up in a way where it shows nothing," he told reporters as he arrived at Heathrow airport. "I have told people that they should

wait until the scientific papers are in print so that they can see how it can be done in a proper fashion."

Fleischmann, 61, a professor at the University of Southampton, and B. Stanley Pons, chairman of the University of Utah chemistry department, announced in Salt Lake City Thursday that they had achieved a sustained nuclear fusion reaction with equipment that is available in college laboratories.

# Extension of truce

MADRID, March 27. (Reuters): Basque guerrillas extended a truce for three months today on condition that three of their leaders jailed in France be allowed to join in talks with the Spanish government.

The separatist group ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom), which has had several rounds of secret talks with Spanish envoys in Algiers, said that a two-and-a-half month ceasefire which expired at midnight on Sunday would be extended until June 24.

But its statement to the radical Basque newspaper Egin laid down the condition that Jose Antonio Urruticoechea, Juan Lorenzo Michelena and Isidro Garañe - all in jail in France - should join the talks within a month.

The ETA statement said its talks with the government would continue at a higher level.

Security forces, fearing a possible guerrilla attack, went on alert in the Basque region and in the cities of Madrid and Barcelona as the deadline expired at midnight on Sunday.

ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom) called its first unilateral truce in its 21-year-old fight for Basque independence when it began talks with Madrid envoys in Algiers in January.

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# Yeltsin sweeps into Soviet Parliament

Stunning challenge to Kremlin

MOSCOW, March 27, (Agencies): Rebel communist Boris Yeltsin, in a stunning challenge to the Kremlin, swept into the Soviet Union's new-style Parliament as deputy for Moscow today with a crushing 89 per cent of the poll.

The result was given to journalists by election officials at Moscow City Hall as jubilant Yeltsin supporters at his headquarters only a few hundred yards (metres) away burst into shouts of "We won. We won."

The outcome of the voting in the country's electoral district number one marked a startling comeback for the 58-year-old Siberian who was expelled from the Communist Party's ruling Politburo a year ago for "political errors."

It was also a clear demonstration of the popularity of his calls for more radical reform, an end to official privilege and the dismantling of the power of the party bureaucracy.

In an interview with Reuters just before the official results were released, Yeltsin said his triumph would force the authorities to speed up Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's "perestroika" reform programme.

"I am really grateful to Muscovites for having made this choice. Now I am really concerned about how to implement the programme I have formulated," he said.

Electoral Commission chairman Igor Orlov read the Moscow returns to Soviet and foreign reporters in the ornate, chandeliered hall of the city council building on Gorky Street near the Kremlin.

He said Yeltsin received 5,118,745 votes against 392,633 for his opponent, Zil car plant director Yevgeny Brakov, who had strong backing from the Moscow city party which Yeltsin himself headed from 1985 until late 1987.

"I therefore declare Yeltsin, Boris Nikolayevich, duly returned for the national-territorial district of Moscow to the Congress of People's Deputies," Orlov declared.

Neither candidate was present for the declaration — which came as first results reaching Moscow from across the country in Sunday's history-making Soviet elections showed other radical reform candidates making a strong showing.

But at the offices of Gosstro, the state construction committee of which Yeltsin is deputy chief, jubilant supporters in the corridors slapped each other on the back.

The burly, white-haired former construction engineer, derided by his critics as a demagogue, told Reuters earlier he hoped to work with other like-minded deputies in the Congress to push through common programmes.

Yeltsin's stunning victory came despite the fact that the top leadership, including Gorbachev, had signalled strongly that



Yeltsin pictured in his Moscow flat as he is having breakfast with his wife Naina shortly before going to cast his ballot in the Soviet general elections. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Multi-party system 'rejected'

MOSCOW, March 27, (UPI): As election officials predicted an extraordinarily heavy turnout in Sunday's nation-wide poll, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev underlined the limits of his "new democracy" by rejecting the concept of a multi-party system in the Soviet Union.

However Gorbachev said he was "in favour of competition" when it came to a choice of candidates in a one party system.

A key aspect of former Moscow party boss Boris Yeltsin's platform has been his call for a serious look at forming a multi-party system to challenge the Communist Party's monopoly on power.

Despite the party's attempt at sabotaging his campaign, Yeltsin appeared to be the darling of Moscow's 6.7 million voters and on the verge of an unprecedented political comeback in the face of extreme odds.

The Soviet leader, in an apparent rebuttal to Yeltsin's repeated calls for more far reaching and faster reform, warned to move too fast might jeopardise the gains already made toward greater democracy.

He denied that party had targeted Yeltsin for a dirty tricks campaign.

They disapproved of his populist approach.

Only 10 days before the election, the first since just after the Bolshevik Revolution in which voters were offered a choice, the party Central Committee decided to investigate whether he was violating communist discipline.

And just a few days earlier, the committee released the text of speeches by the entire Kremlin hierarchy — from reformists to conservatives — condemning him for allegedly seeking to split the party.

Gorbachev himself told reporters after casting his own vote yesterday that the country had to avoid "stupidities and great leaps forward" in what appeared to be a clear reference to Yeltsin's calls for a radicalisation of perestroika.

In another blow to Communist Party prestige, nationalist candidates representing the

Sajudis movement in the Baltic republic of Lithuania swept to victory in 31 of the republic's 42 circuits and are involved in second round runoff elections in eight other districts.

While in neighbouring Estonia it appeared that a vast majority of the 19 seats up for grabs there had been captured by nationalist candidates, Estonia state television said.

As results from major urban centres became public it was clear that prominent Communist Party-approved candidates were soundly rejected by voters in several election-day embassments.

In Tomsk, in Siberia, the Communist Party-approved candidate V. Zorkaliev, first secretary of the regional party committee failed to win the required 50 per cent of the vote even though he was running unopposed.

# Jews in US unhappy with Israeli politics

NEW YORK, March 27, (AP): Political manoeuvring over "who is a Jew" in Israel has left a painful legacy in the US-Jewish community, where respondents to a survey said even West Bank Arabs are given fairer treatment than conservative and reform Jews.

The American Jewish committee study revealed support for

Israel as strong as ever, but it also showed that widespread discontent was sown when attempts were made to amend Israel's law of return to deny non-orthodox converts an automatic right to Israeli citizenship.

The study also provided new evidence of a growing activism among US Jews toward their spiritual homeland, according to

some observers. A majority, 54 per cent, of the survey said they had spoken critically of attempts to change the law.

A third said they would be less likely to make political or charitable contributions to Israel if the law is changed to exclude converts from reform and conservative Judaism, branches to

which more than 80 per cent of US Jews affiliated to a synagogue belong.

"I think the effect is kind of a contingent, or sleeper, effect," said Queens College professor Steven M. Cohen, who conducted the survey for the committee's Institute on American Jewish-Israeli relations. "This precedent will allow American

Jews to forcefully and pointedly disagree" on other issues involving Israel.

The attempt to define Jewishness provided an "emotional vent" to US Jews already concerned about Israel's response to the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza, according to Gunther Lawrence, a media consultant.

Escalate revolt

## Call for use of knives in uprising

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 27, (AP): Palestinian leaders called today for an escalation of the uprising against Israel, urging the use of "knives, axes, firebombs and large rocks" in the struggle for an independent homeland.

The pro-PLO leadership issued the call in a leaflet as Palestinians launched a general strike that shuttered shops and paralyzed public transport throughout the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was reported today to be ready to let Palestinians in the occupied territories hold local elections, a move the United States would support but PLO would oppose.

Hospital officials said Israeli troops shot and wounded at least six protesters in clashes, and Arab sources said Palestinian activists attacked two suspected informants, wounding the son of one of them.

"Let's escalate all kinds of uprising struggle, from knives, axes and firebombs to throwing large rocks from rooftops," the leaflet exhorted. "Our people will be like a rock."

PLO chairman Yasser Arafat has urged holding down the violence in apparent concern that international sympathy generated by the 15-month-old rebellion could be lost if weapons were used.

Last week, an Israeli intelligence report leaked to the media warned the revolt could become more violent if a political solution for the occupied territories was not found.

The leaflet also called for a Palestinian protest against US policy in the Middle East on April 6, the day Shamir meets with US President George Bush in Washington.

As in the past, the leaflet also urged a Palestinian boycott of Israeli products.

The leaflet called on Palestinians to stop working in the "Zionist settlements."

Israeli troops shot dead a four-year-old Palestinian boy today during clashes with protesters in Beit Kad village near Jenin, hospital officials said.

They said Amjad Mustafa Nasser was shot in the chest and was dead on arrival at hospital.

In the Gaza Strip, the Army attempted to enforce calm by clamping curfews on eight towns, refugee camps and neighbourhoods in the occupied coastal region. The orders confined more than 260,000 residents to their homes.

It was the ninth day under curfew for the 57,000 people in the Shati camp and the Sheikh Radwan neighbourhood of Gaza city.

The independent newspaper Haaretz said Shamir, on a visit to Washington next week, would propose municipal elections in some parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip to find leaders who would negotiate with Israel on "full autonomy."

Diplomats said the proposal could put Washington, which would welcome more democracy in the territories, against the PLO which has vowed to boycott any poll under Israeli occupation.

NICOSIA, March 27, (Reuters): Cyprus announced new measures today to boost its defences in case of renewed fighting with Turkish troops occupying the northern third of the island.

Defence Minister Andreas Alogoskoufis said the military, which already drafts school leavers for 36 months of service, would call



After 10 years of civil war and more than one million dead, the cemeteries of Afghanistan are full. Bereaved families in Kabul visit the graves of their dead. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Hekmatyar hurt in Afghan bombing

ISLAMABAD, March 27, (Reuters): Afghan government jets bombed a mosque near the eastern city of Jalalabad this weekend, slightly injuring Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the foreign minister of an Afghan rebel government-in-exile.

A spokesman for Hekmatyar's radical Hezb-e-Islami party told Reuters last night the

foreign minister had one hand slightly injured in Saturday's attack.

The spokesman said Hekmatyar, 39, was praying at the mosque near Jalalabad, which has been under siege by the rebels for three weeks, when it was bombed by Soviet-backed Afghan government jets.

Hekmatyar returned to the

northwestern Pakistani town of Peshawar last night and "is now all right," the spokesman said.

He said Hekmatyar had come within five km (three miles) of Jalalabad, capital of Nangarhar province bordering Pakistan.

The Western-backed guerrillas and the Afghan government both reported continu-

ing fighting around Jalalabad on Sunday, each side claiming minor successes against the other.

The guerrillas launched the offensive on March 5 in a bid to take the city which they chose as a possible base for the government-in-exile they formed last month.

Regime fails in its aims

## Barre admits torture

ROME, March 27, (Reuters): Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre has admitted human rights abuses and corruption in his country and says his 20-year-old regime has failed in its aims.

In an interview with the Italian magazine Panorama, Barre said:

"Sometimes we are forced to push to the sidelines our concern to respect the citizens, including human rights. However we are determined to correct any

abuses or violations of these sacrosanct rights."

Many Western states have suspended aid to the East African country after international human rights organisations reported summary executions, systematic torture and mass detentions.

Asked about alleged corruption in his regime, Barre said: "I cannot say in good faith that our administration is free of elements of corruption, embezzlement or misappropriation."



Muslim protesters hold a rally in front of the British embassy in Tokyo against British author Salman Rushdie's novel 'The Satanic Verses'. (Reuters wirephoto)

Anti-Rushdie protests banned

## Howe visits Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, March 27, (AP): British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe arrived for a 26-hour visit today to Muslim-populated Pakistan amid tight security designed to prevent protests over the novel, The Satanic Verses.

About 2,000 police lined the 12-mile (20-kilometre) route between Islamabad airport and the British embassy, and Howe was whisked away in a motorcade without meeting reporters shortly after his arrival.

Demonstrators had planned to greet Howe with black flags of protest, but authorities imposed a temporary ban on public gatherings in Islamabad of more than five persons at a time.

## Cyprus to take new defence measures

NICOSIA, March 27, (Reuters): Cyprus announced new measures today to boost its defences in case of renewed fighting with Turkish troops occupying the northern third of the island.

Defence Minister Andreas Alogoskoufis said the military, which already drafts school leavers for 36 months of service, would call

up men over 40 to be trained and armed to guard their own neighbourhoods.

"We feel threatened by a far superior military force," he said in an interview. Turkish troops invaded the island in 1974 after a short-lived coup in Nicosia engineered by the junta then ruling in Athens.

UN estimates put the Turkish force at some 30,000 men. UN peacekeepers patrol an 180-km (110-mile) buffer zone between ceasefire lines separating Greek and Turkish Cypriots.

Alogoskoufis said about 10,000 Greek Cypriots were under arms boosted by about 1,500 mainland Greek troops, many of them officers.

## New Sudanese cabinet endorses truce with rebels

KHARTOUM, March 27, (AP): Prime Minister Sadeq El Mahdi's new cabinet used its first meeting to endorse a tentative truce with southern rebels, an issue that had forced him to disband his last cabinet.

Hussein Abu-Saleh, Minister of Information and Culture, said the cabinet also decided to form a committee headed by Foreign Minister Sidahmed Al Hussein to start contacts with the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Organisation.

The move was a major breakthrough in attempts to end the war in the south, which has been costing the faltering economy \$1 million daily.

The fighting has created a famine that has killed hundreds of thousands of southerners. The United Nations has mounted one of its biggest-ever relief efforts to the region, fearing that as many as 600,000 more people could die.

The peace agreement was signed on Nov. 16

by the centrist Democratic Unionist Party, then a partner in El-Mahdi's cabinet, and the SPLA.

Mahdi, describing Garang as a brother, urged him today to respond to government moves to end the civil war.

Mahdi, speaking in Parliament two days after his new coalition was sworn in, said he planned to suspend Islamic sharia punishments (hodoud), one of the key demands of southern rebels.

## Thatcher honoured in Morocco

MARRAKESH, Morocco, March 27, (Reuters): British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher arrived in Morocco at the start of a six-day African tour today to be uniquely honoured by King Hassan.

Thatcher's first engagement of a stop-over lasting less than 24 hours was a private lunch with the ladies of the royal family hosted by the king's wife, Lalla Latifa.

Lalla Latifa is rarely seen in public and granting Thatcher access to his family in the sumptuous palace, the royal winter home in Marrakesh, is a distinction the king did not even confer on Queen Elizabeth during her 1980 state visit.

Thatcher and King Hassan were scheduled to hold at least two hours of talks later before he hosts a state banquet in her honour this evening.

British officials said they expected the talks to be "broadly political", centring on the Arab-Israeli conflict in particular and the Middle East in general.

"The king is well placed to encourage contact between the Palestinians and Israel," an aide told reporters aboard Thatcher's plane during the flight from London.

Thatcher was met at a rain-lashed Marrakesh airport by Prime Minister Azeddine Laraki, who hosted husband Denis to lunch while Thatcher attended her strictly ladies-only function.

By contrast, the 63-year-old Thatcher will be the only woman at tonight's banquet.

## Views on Jesus being contradicted

ATLANTA, March 27, (UPI): New historical research is contradicting the traditional view that Jesus conducted a largely rural ministry, preaching to simple audiences in parables that centred on agriculture, a report said yesterday.

Evidence is emerging in Israel that suggests Jesus was familiar with city life, used urban images in his preaching and probably taught in two languages, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution said.

The same evidence also shows that ancient Galilee, the region in which Jesus taught, was a long way from the backwater that scholars once thought it was.

Instead, it was a cosmopolitan region dominated by two major cities, and influenced by classical Greek culture.

This new picture of Jesus and his region is emerging from six years of archaeological excavations at Sepphoris, the Roman capital of Galilee during the first century AD. The ruins of Sepphoris lie barely four miles north of Nazareth, the village in which Jesus grew up, according to the gospel.

"We certainly can say that the area was urbane, cosmopolitan, an area in which people spoke Greek and Aramaic," said Dr Eric Meyers, a professor at Duke University and co-director of one of the two excavations at the site.

Sepphoris was adjacent to a major trade route — "the I-40 of ancient Palestine," in Meyers' words — that linked the region with ports on the Mediterranean Sea.

The larger city probably dominated Nazareth economically and culturally, providing the village with a marketplace and law courts.

Despite its apparent importance to ancient Galilee, Sepphoris is not mentioned in the New Testament.

Both Meyers and Strange said they now believe Jesus also knew Greek and probably taught in it.

## 'Yacht briefly detained'

(Continued from Page 1)

"The report is completely baseless," KUNA quoted the unidentified source as saying. "We have also no information about an alleged hijacking incident," the source added.

An Al-Naba said Iranian Navy ships on Thursday intercepted the 32-foot (24-m) yacht and escorted the blue and white vessel to Iran's Farsi Island in the northern Gulf. The yacht was sailing

from Bahrain to Kuwait. The newspaper said the yacht's passengers included four Britons, five members of a Gulf Arab ruling family and the sons of two Arab public figures.

Gulf-based diplomatic sources said they believed the four Britons were air hostesses.

The diplomats also said the son of the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and the son of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein were aboard the yacht.

## MIDEAST BRIEFS

### Rajavi's sister

NICOSIA, March 27, (AP): Mujahideen Khalifa, Iran's main opposition group, claimed today that the sister of its leader, Massoud Rajavi, has been executed after torture in an Iranian prison. Tehran had no immediate comment on the allegation, but its official media reported news arrests in the widespread crackdown on drug smuggling and addiction in the country.

### Faher visits Paris

PARIS, March 27, (KUNA): The Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister of the Sultanate of Oman, Prince Faher Bin Taimur, starts today afternoon a five-day official visit to France at the invitation of the French Defence Minister, Jean-Pierre Chevenement. In addition to his talks with Chevenement and visits to French military camps in the suburb of Paris and in the south of France, the prince is scheduled to hold meetings with Prime Minister Michel Rocard and Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, the Defence Ministry here said.

### Hurd in Bahrain

BAHRAIN, March 27, (Reuters): British Home Secretary Douglas Hurd today began a 10-day tour of Gulf states with talks in Bahrain on security co-operation and regional developments, the Gulf News Agency said. It said Hurd, who will also visit Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Oman, was received at the start of his two-day visit to Bahrain by Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa. Hurd is expected to seek Arab support in the war against terrorism and drug smuggling.

### Pak-Syria talks

DAMASCUS, March 27, (KUNA): Pakistan's Secretary of Defence Production, Talat Massoud today held talks here with a number of Syrian Defence Ministry officials. Massoud last night met with Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tlass during which they discussed current situation in Middle East and issues of mutual interest, Radio Damascus reported today.

### Reserve militia

NICOSIA, March 27, (AP): The government announced today it plans to establish reserve armed militia units to confront the numerical superiority of the Turkish forces on the war-divided island. The militia will be made up of male Army reservists over 50 years old and medically fit men who were excused from compulsory military service, an official announcement said.

مكتبة



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## KUWAIT ... GULF

ARAB TIMES, TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1989

# Relief planes leave for South Yemen

### Floods devastate Hadramaut

KUWAIT, March 27. (KUNA): Two Kuwaiti Air Force transport planes left here today for the Peoples Democratic Republic of Yemen carrying the first batch of relief materials ordered by His Highness the Amir.

The cargo includes tents, blankets, food and medicines in addition to other relief materials.

HH had ordered the assistance to victims of the recent torrential rains that hit that Arab country.

Meanwhile, a Reuters report adds: Heavy rains continued today to lash flood-devastated central South Yemen where thousands of houses have collapsed or been swept away according to the Aden News Agency.

The agency, contacted by telephone, said communications were still cut in Hadramaut province. South Yemen's biggest, where floods have inundated many thousands of acres of farmland.

It said a special committee, headed by Socialist Party Secretary-General Ali Salem Al Baidh, had been set up to try to send aid to the victims.

Tens of thousands of people are now homeless after a week of torrential rains in a normally arid



Air Force plane with relief supplies.

region of one of the world's poorest countries.

The agency said the floods swept away a government lorry carrying food to devastated areas. Aden Radio said almost 900 houses in Al Shahr town and 850 houses in the Sheban area had been damaged.

Marxist-ruled South Yemen has appealed for international aid to assist victims in the provinces of Hadramaut, Al Mahara and Ibban and has thanked Saudi Arabia, North Yemen, the United Arab Emirates, the Soviet Union and the Arab League for providing help.

### Premier to patronise festivities

## Kuwait Health Week

UNDER the patronage of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Kuwait will celebrate Health Week from April 1-7, with the theme "Let's Talk About Health."

Dr Hussein Al Momen, head of the festivities committee, has told reporters that activities would be staged in various areas of health, accompanied by lectures at different health centres intended to raise public health awareness.

He added that competitions would be part of the week's activities with prizes distributed among the winners. Contributions to the festivities are being planned by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, Kuwait Municipality, private companies and schools, Momen said.

## Applied education students strike

STUDENTS at Kuwait's Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (Electricity and Water Training Centre) went on strike Saturday as they claimed they had not been paid their monthly stipend for the past two months, according to a local daily.

### Petition

Ahmed Sherazi, a member of the Students' Council, said that all new students had not been paid these perks "although they had passed the whole

curriculum.

He added that the water has been cut off at the centre for the past two weeks and that although the students had submitted a petition in this regard to the deputy director-general of the authority, no positive action has been taken.

Jassem Abdurrahim, the director of the centre, attributed the delay in payments to an administrative change. He added that the centre will shortly solve the issue in co-operation with the authority.

# Kuwaiti sponsors withdraw applications for new visas

By Hussain Salameh

KUWAITI sponsors who had already applied to the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour for new work permits have now withdrawn their applications due to the new regulations, according to well informed sources.

Sources added that with this act, it is now confirmed that these sponsors are indeed traders in residency permits for which they charged exorbitant

amounts — in some cases ranging up to KD1000 per work permit.

The Social Affairs Ministry sources confirmed the withdrawals and said the new regulation banning the transfer of a worker from one sponsor to another before the completion of three years with the original sponsor has proved effective in eradicating "trading in visas".

Conversely, a number of entrepreneurs beginning

new ventures said that they could not get even a single employee from the local market due to the new regulations.

They added that applications for bringing in overseas labourers is a lengthy process. This causes undue hardship to local businessmen and could be viewed as the first disadvantage of the new ministry labour regulations.

Also speaking on the issue, Mohammad Al Shab-

nan, assistant undersecretary for Labour Affairs said that the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour will not hesitate to amend any of the new regulations which prove to be impractical.

However, he added that the law has been enacted to organise the labour market, ensure the interests of employers and employees and overall to achieve the prime goal of the five-year-plan which aims at creating a demographic structure

## Drivers licences

## No change in rules

THE General Traffic Department has no intention of expanding eligibility requirements for Kuwaiti driving permits to expatriates, according to Brigadier Fuad Musaed Al Saleh, director of the department.

### Exchange

The new measures which have been instituted are related to the exchange of foreign driving licences of certain categories of expatriates such as doctors, lawyers, journalists, judges, engineers, and members of the nursing staff, the official said.

He added that applications for exchanging foreign driving permits by persons in these categories were to be submitted to the department's offices in the governorates.

### Vehicle testing

Saleh said that a new system for the technical testing of vehicles is being planned. According to the plan, each governorate will have two testing stations with offices to process the paperwork.

He added that the department intends to set up driver training centres. The first centre will be constructed next April and will be located in Shuwaikh. Subsequently, other centres will be established on the 6th Ring Road, Hawalli Governorate, Ahmadi and the last in Jahra.

# KAC fiscal profits to exceed KD10 million

### General annual conference

By Lima Al Khalafawi  
Arab Times staff

KUWAIT Airways Corporation (KAC) held its General Annual Conference yesterday which coincided with its 35th anniversary.

In his keynote address, KAC Chairman and Managing Director Ahmed Al Mishari said that the occasion focuses on KAC's current accomplishments and future plans.

Speaking about KAC's 35 years experience, Mishari said it successfully achieved a thorough policy of rationalisation by balancing earnings and expenditures. KAC's annual profits projected for the fiscal year 1988-89 is expected to exceed KD10 million. Current assets of KAC now exceed KD500 million compared to its book value of KD300 million.

## Computer conference emphasis on Arabic language programmes

KUWAIT, March 27. (KUNA): Kuwait's first conference on computer was inaugurated here today under the patronage of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah, with emphasis on introduction of Arabic language in computer programming.

Addressing the opening session on behalf of HH the Crown Prince and Premier, Minister of Education Anwar Abdullah Al Nouri relayed to the conferees Sheikh Saad's greeting and his hopes of success of the gathering.

He pointed out that the two past decades have witnessed considerable advancement in the field of computer and information technologies which promise

a real technical revolution that would open new horizons of knowledge to mankind.

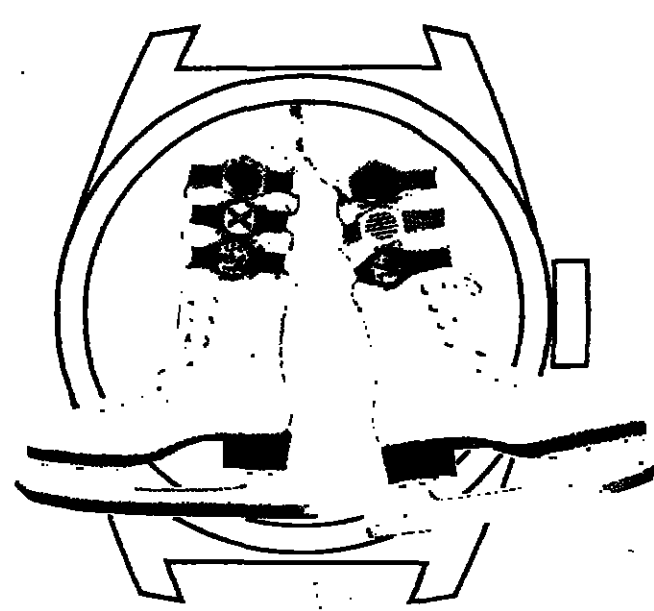
Nouri said the developmental leap would put computer experts, technicians and instructors, namely in developing countries including Arab states, face-to-face with a new challenge — that is how to cope with speedy advancement in the field of computers.

### Harmony

He urged the conferees to utilise the advancement in computer technology for serving Arab civilisation and to introduce Arabic language programming in a smooth and harmonised manner that would not adversely affect the rules and basic aspects of our language.

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Al-Rai Garage:	7.30 AM to 12.30 PM. Thursdays: 2.00 PM to 5.30 PM. 7.30 AM to 1.00 PM.	4718693, 4713622/26/30/32, 4713653/56/57, 4713661/63/65
Al-Ahmadi Garage:	7.30 AM to 12.30 PM. Thursdays: 2.00 PM to 5.30 PM. 7.30 AM to 1.00 PM.	3981524, 3985290
Al-Ahmadi Spare Parts:	7.30 AM to 12.30 PM. Thursdays: 2.00 PM to 5.30 PM. 7.30 AM to 1.00 PM.	3981523
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# ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE heart is never neutral — Earl of Shaftesbury, English statesman (1621-1683).

## OPINION

### A good lesson for Israelis

THE Afghan people lost one million martyrs in their successful quest to drive the Soviets out of their country. A superpower like the USSR with all its warlike might and destructive arsenal was ultimately compelled to withdraw from Afghanistan. Nevertheless, it was a withdrawal that complied with logic and pragmatism — basically because the invasion of Afghanistan by Soviet forces was wrong.

Many such examples of interferences ended with failure — the US intervention in Vietnam, and the Iranian intervention in Iraq, to name two. Many others will likewise end in failure and may lead to civil war, and perhaps even the downfall of regimes who advocate and participate in such interferences.

Wesay this to impress on Israel that it must realise that it is totally unjustified and wrong in trying to suppress the ongoing internal Palestinian revolution. Israel should learn from the many international experiences in this field. Israel must heed the writing on the wall: "The revolution of stones in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is developing, gaining momentum, receiving support and getting stronger."

The Afghan revolution started from small beginnings, but ended by forcing the downfall of a powerful system. This revolution produced one million martyrs. The Palestinian revolution looks to be on its way to produce one million martyrs as well — if it becomes necessary. This is because one would prefer death than to live under foreign occupation and inhuman living conditions.

The Kabul government and the Kremlin regime played down the strength of the Afghan revolution at first. But they had to kneel down in the end. They realised that it is absolutely futile to invade other countries. Under such circumstances, heroes are created, heroes who unify their countries in resisting the invaders. It is a good lesson, which perhaps Israel and others would like to benefit from.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

### Magic touch lost

By John Owen-Davies

ANKARA, (Reuters): Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, humiliated in municipal elections, appears to have lost the magic touch that once saw him riding a wave of popularity expounding bold ideas for modernising Turkey.

It became clear yesterday that his Motherland Party was no longer dominant and that the Ozal era, marked by economic liberalisation and a turning to the West, may be ending.

"He knew that the odds were against him in the poll and that the old magic was not working," a party member said.

The Motherland Party trailed two others in vote-counting from yesterday's national local polls, a key test of Ozal's popularity amid discontent over rampant inflation.

"Perhaps Ozal can leave office and politics even before an early (general) election," political columnist Guner Civaoglu wrote in Sabah newspaper, reflecting the mood of many Turks.

Ozal has achieved much since he came to power as a technocrat in 1983 Army-supervised elections after three years of military rule which crushed extremist violence and political mayhem.

"He has set in motion changes that are basically irreversible, especially on the financial side," said a Western diplomat.

But Ozal has lost his lustre. He showed little enthusiasm in campaigns for the local polls and his television addresses lacked their usual sparkle.

The Social Democrat populist party led in vote-counting with the centre-right True Path Party (DYP) second and Motherland trailing third.

Ozal seemed relaxed as he toured Ankara with his wife in their white Mercedes after polling, chatting to people in the street.

The stocky 61-year-old conservative, who applied in 1987 for full Turkish membership of the European Economic Community, described himself last year as a politician with gut instincts.

"I get a feeling in my stomach and I know it is right," he said.

But in voting for mayors and assemblies in 2,000 cities and towns on which he tacitly staked his career, his instincts appear to have failed him.

"Ever since his heart operation in 1987 he has appeared to lose some enthusiasm for centre-stage politics," a Motherland source said.

A brief respite came after Ozal, a workaholic who sleeps five hours a night, was shot in the hand in an assassination attempt last June.

### TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1507 — Genoa, Italy, capitulates to France's King Louis XII.
- 1791 — Britain increases naval strength, fearing war with Russia over Black Sea port of Ochakov which was captured from the Turks.
- 1800 — Act of Union with England passes Ireland's parliament.
- 1801 — Peace of Florence between France and Naples, whereby British vessels are to be excluded from Neapolitan ports.
- 1854 — Britain declares war upon Russia.
- 1898 — First German naval bill, introduced by Alfred von Tirpitz, begins Germany's naval expansion.
- 1938 — Japan installs puppet government of Chinese republic in Nanking.
- 1939 — Madrid's surrender to General Francisco Franco ends Spanish civil war.
- 1945 — Germany's V-Rocket attacks on Britain end during World War II, United States invades Cebu in heart of Philippines.
- 1957 — Britain releases Archbishop Makarios who is free to travel except to Cyprus.
- 1962 — Syrian Army revolt fails; European secret army organization in Algeria proclaims all-out guerrilla warfare against French forces.
- 1967 — UN Secretary-General U Thant proposes general truce in Vietnam, followed by peace talks, and the United States says it will go along.
- 1970 — Ansar sect supporters of Imam El Mahdi rebel in Sudan.
- 1974 — Mounting civil unrest virtually paralyses founding government of Ethiopia's Emperor Haile Selassie.
- 1986 — Nicaragua sends truckloads of troops to area of heavy fighting near border with Honduras.
- 1988 — European legislators open conference in Zimbabwe, calling on Britain and United States to impose stricter economic sanctions against South Africa.

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AND THEY WON'T BE



## Shamir's difficulties mount

US visit only a week away

By Ann Peters

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (UPI): With only a week left before he arrives in Washington for his first talks with the Bush administration, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has little time to find alternatives that will convince the Bush administration Israel can negotiate with someone other than the PLO.

To compound his problems, he is losing his united front in Israel and abroad against sitting down with Yasser Arafat's PLO, which is outlawed in the Jewish state, where officialdom considers it a terrorist organisation.

As Shamir gathered hundreds of world Jewish leaders last week for a well-orchestrated "solidarity-with-Israel" pep rally in Jerusalem, a top-level military intelligence analysis surfaced rejecting his tough opposition to the PLO.

The analysis said the very thing Shamir did not want to hear: that the shunned PLO had become moderate and inevitably would be part of any Middle East peace settlement.

With the United States, Israel's chief ally, talking to the PLO, and the Soviet Union entering the Middle East negotiating game, time may be running against Shamir. His tactic since re-election four months ago has

been to turn aside policy questions on the Palestinian issue by saying his now not-so-new government is working on new peace initiatives.

Shamir's repetition of his "new ideas" theme — a rehash of the 11-year-old Camp David peace accords — have become almost comical, even to him.

"Of course I will take many initiatives (to Washington), many proposals, many ideas," Shamir recently told reporters, who recently broke out in laughter along with him at the well-worn phrases.

Shamir believes, however, that victories by his right-wing Likud Party in national and local elections over the last four months demonstrate Israeli support for his anti-PLO stance.

He has called peace activists supporting an independent Palestinian state extremely dangerous. Shamir thinks Israelis "border-on treason," the Jerusalem Post said in an editorial, when they voice "open dissent from his maximalist programme of no land whatever for peace, and no dialogue ever with any kind of PLO."

In an apparent attempt to show Shamir is not so intransigent, his aides say he met recent-

ly with Palestinians in the territories, even though they are PLO sympathisers. Palestinians have called for an end to such talks, saying they give Shamir ammunition to keep fending off direct talks with the PLO.

But the reality of the changing Middle East scene is that Israel's closest ally — is talking with the PLO. And Shamir's partner in the shaky ruling coalition, Labour Party leader Shimon Peres, is once more talking about ideas for a settlement that Shamir might find difficult to swallow.

Peres is careful to explain that the Israeli government — at least for now — speaks with only one voice.

"I would like to allow Mr Shamir to travel to the United States under the most comfortable conditions possible," Peres said.

Perhaps Peres is waiting until Shamir returns to determine if the prime minister failed. Again showing political restraint, Peres and his aides brush off questions about whether Labour will pull out of the government if they perceive a stalemate in peace negotiations.

But hints abound, with Peres noting in a recent speech that he might have to re-evaluate the situation after Shamir returns.

## Missile-hit civilian airliner: relatives demand justice

By Barry Moody

ROME, (Reuters): Did Italy's Air Force shoot down a civilian airliner in 1980, killing all 81 people on board, and then systematically destroy the evidence?

Or are Italian authorities covering up the responsibility of another power?

Many Italians believe these appear the most plausible explanations for the disaster following a new judicial report saying the airliner was shot down with an air-to-air missile.

The only other alternative, say angry relatives of the victims, is that Italy's defences are so weak they cannot detect an airliner being shot down by a fighter plane over its territory.

The anger and frustration of the relatives came to the boil after a commission of six crash and explosives experts reported to investigating magistrate Vittorio Bucarelli on March 17 that the airliner was destroyed by a missile.

After nine years of mystery, it was the first official verdict on what exactly caused the crash of a DC-9 of the now defunct domestic carrier Itavia, on the night of June 27, 1980.

Bucarelli has promised the relatives he will complete his inquiry within two months of receiving the report. He is expected soon to question the defence minister at the time, Lelio Lagorio, other senior officials and military officers.

The relatives say those responsible for destroying the plane, which crashed into the sea near Sicily, and those alleged to have hid the evidence, must rapidly be brought to justice.

"We are sick of waiting... Even if the judge has not yet got enough evidence to show who fired the missile and why, he has all the elements to establish who hid the truth and manipulated the evidence for so many years," said Alfredo Galasso, one of two lawyers representing the relatives.

He said: "I had a feeling of great dismay, of great anguish... A reading of the technical report, arouses extraordinary indignation for the silence, the delays, the disinformation, that stopped us knowing the truth for all these years."

"We waited nearly nine years from the tragedy before knowing only one thing with certainty, something which was very clear a long time



A 1980 file picture of Italian seamen in Palermo, Sicily, holding the tail cone of the airliner shot down by a missile.

before... from the very first inquiries it was absolutely clear that this plane was hit from the outside by an object that obviously could not have been a child's kite."

After the report was delivered, Defence Minister Valerio Zanone ordered an urgent inquiry inside the Air Force.

Zanone has repeatedly denied that Italy's forces could have caused the disaster and he says there is nothing to contradict denials by other NATO countries or Libya.

Zanone recently also suggested that Italy's radar might not have been able properly to see what was happening in the area.

## Fahd tries to heal Arab differences

By Jeffrey Bartholet

CAIRO, (Reuters): King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, on a rare trip outside the kingdom, appears to be pursuing a more active policy aimed at healing Arab schisms during a tour of the region that brought him to Cairo yesterday.

"The Saudis now want to come out of their cocoon... this may be the start of active Saudi policy in the Arab world," said an Egyptian Foreign Ministry official.

"We consider them leaders because of their great economic power, but they didn't play a very active role before."

Giant wreaths and posters were prepared to welcome King Fahd to Cairo like a long-lost brother. His arrival from Baghdad was to be broadcast live over state television.

Fahd's three-day visit, the first by a Saudi king since the early 1970s, was seen by Cairo commentators as the symbolic end to an era in which Egypt was an outcast of the Arab world.

"Everyday there is new evidence that we are living the best years of our Arabism... welcome to a new great stage in the history of the Arab nation," gushed Mahmoud Abdel-Monim Murad, writing in Al-Akhbar newspaper.

Salama Ahmed Salama, managing editor of Al-Ahram, said King Fahd appeared concerned about the formation of two new Arab groups in addition to the existing Gulf Co-operation Council.

One new group joined Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and North Yemen and the other united North African Arab states.

"Fahd would like to see that the Arab world doesn't divide itself into three blocs," Salama said. "He wants to ensure that each of these entities does not split the Arab world again."

Despite Egypt's return to the Arab fold, a much-heralded Arab summit in Riyadh has yet to get off the ground, and some regional diplomats were sceptical that it would take place.

King Fahd has insisted on minimum co-operation between Syria and its bitter rivals Iraq, Egypt and the PLO before convening a regular summit.

Inner-Arab tension was expected to be a main topic of talks between King Fahd and President Hosni Mubarak, who were due to review the fighting in Lebanon, the Arab-Israeli peace process, economic co-operation and summit prospects.

The PLO, anxious to get Arab backing for its peace initiatives, wants an extraordinary summit in Morocco if Saudi Arabia fails to gain a consensus.

"Chairman Arafat still thinks we ought to hold one soon, if not in Riyadh then in Morocco," said Nabil Shaath, a Cairo-based adviser to PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

Fahd is due to travel to Tunis after Cairo, according to Egyptian papers. His Egypt visit comes two days after a mini-summit in the Suez canal town of Ismailia between Mubarak, Arafat and King Hussein of Jordan.

Arafat briefed his two allies on the outcome of PLO talks with the US ambassador in Tunis. The three leaders also reviewed a joint stand ahead of visits to the US by Mubarak, King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Mubarak was scheduled to accompany his royal guest on tours of Suez and Ismailia, and on a train ride to the Mediterranean port of Alexandria.

Egyptian officials hope the visit will promote further Saudi investment in Egypt, particularly in military industry.

Egypt has been negotiating with its former partners in the Arab Organisation for Industrialisation (AOI) to reunite the group, which broke up after Egypt made peace with Israel.

Saudi Arabia has been wary of rejoining the AOI, formed in Egypt with the United Arab Emirates and Qatar, due to changing economic conditions in the region, Egyptian officials said.



Fahd: active



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Monitoring committee to meet

## OPEC to discuss oil output ceilings

VIENNA, March 27. (Reuters): Key OPEC ministers meet here this week in unusually calm circumstances.

For the first time in years the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries does not face bitter internal wrangling over production levels and today oil prices were at their highest since the global stock market crash in October, 1987.

Oil industry analysts say that when OPEC's monitoring committee convenes here on Wednesday ministers from Algeria, Nigeria, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela should be able to look ahead, freed from the sense of crisis that has dogged recent efforts to dictate world prices.

Thus, they say, the session could be a relatively low-key affair devoted to discussion of members' production ceilings for the second half of 1989, co-operation with non-OPEC exporters which have agreed to help the organisation support prices

through output restraint and prospects for an OPEC summit.

"We're not getting terribly excited (about the meeting), but looking for pointers that they might raise the quota (in the second half of the year)," said Jeremy Hudson, oil analyst at Shearson Lehman Hutton in London.

### Output

Last November all 13 OPEC members agreed an overall output ceiling of 18.5 million barrels per day for the first half of this year. After that session Iraq and Kuwait hinted they might be looking for a higher output quota after June.

Some analysts believe a raised production ceiling is on the cards after the strength of the oil market so far this year.

Oil prices jumped today in Tokyo. Britain's Brent blend crude, the most widely traded on world spot markets, went past \$19 a barrel for the first time since October, 1987.

Traders said they were boosted by news that a huge oil spill from a US tanker which ran aground on Friday had closed the Alaskan port of Valdez, terminus of the pipeline which carries oil from Alaska's North slope fields.

A cargo of Brent loading in May traded at \$19.25 today, up 40 cents from Friday's closing level and more than \$3 up on the beginning of 1989.

European spot markets have been closed since Thursday for the Easter holiday and are not due to reopen until tomorrow. Trading, however, was resuming in the US today.

Oil prices have also been helped this year by OPEC output cuts of some 3.5 million barrels per day (BPD) to around 19.5 million, healthy consumer demand and cuts in exports by non-OPEC producers of some 291,000 BPD in second-quarter 1989.

Analysts believe that barring excessive

OPEC overproduction prices could stay firm in the second half of 1989, as current demand for OPEC oil of 18.5 to 19.5 million BPD may rise to between 20 and 21 million.

"OPEC should increase the quota in June otherwise the gap (between quota and demand) will be filled by output beyond the ceiling," said Geoff Pyne, analyst at UBS-Phillips and Drew.

Alternatively OPEC might decide to raise its \$18 a barrel reference price target if markets stay strong. OPEC Secretary-General Subroto of Indonesia said last week.

"The (June) conference will decide whether it will keep the \$18 or whether they want to change the production ceiling," he told reporters.

Analysts say higher quotas would help move the problem of United Arab Emirates overproduction nearer to solution.

## Amman faces financial crisis

## Jordan to seek IMF standby credit: Shukri

AMMAN, March 27. (Reuters): Jordan, caught in a financial bind, is set to ask the IMF for a standby credit help with debt rescheduling when formal talks open tomorrow.

Prime Minister Zeid Al Rifai says the kingdom has already moved to reform its economy and will resist any attempt by the International Monetary Fund to impose conditions.

"The government has taken all the corrective measures needed to restructure the Jordanian economy," he said last week.

Finance Minister Hana Odeh will lead the Jordanian side in tomorrow's talks, which follow 10 days of preparatory work by an advance IMF team, no details of the fund's views have emerged.

Rifai said Jordan was seeking an accord within two weeks on rescheduling the debt, which he has put at \$6 billion.

Central Bank Deputy Governor Maher Shukri has estimated debt servicing at about \$1.2 billion this year.

Payments Jordan is rolling over principal payments on its commercial debt, which bankers say is less than \$700 million, and has fallen into arrears on some military and bilateral debt.

Shukri has said Jordan will ask the IMF for a standby credit. The government also had preliminary talks with a World Bank mission last month on a structural adjustment loan.

Bankers say Amman needs the IMF's blessing for its economic programme before it can approach the Paris Club of major Western creditor nations to reschedule their share of the debt.



Zeid Al Rifai

Spurred by a critical shortage of foreign currency, the government has already taken action often recommended by the IMF. It has devalued the dinar, curbed imports and cut spending.

However, to cushion the impact of austerity, it has pledged to hold basic food prices stable this year with subsidies expected to cost about 60 million dinars (\$111 million).

Rifai has blamed the cash crunch on Arab oil states for failing to pay in full an annual grant of \$1.25 billion promised to Jordan as a frontline state against Israel in 1978.

He says successive governments borrowed and spent on development projects and military purchases during the 10-year agreement which ended last year, assuming the aid would arrive.

In the process, Jordan acquired a modern infrastructure and built up its phosphate, potash and cement industries.

But as Arab aid and remittances from Jordanians working in recession-hit Gulf states dwindled, Jordan ran down its foreign currency reserves to meet swelling debt repayments.

"The story of our economy is one of sacred cows and white elephants," said one banker who criticised the government for moving too slowly to tackle foreseeable problems and spending heavily on projects that have been slow to yield returns.

A businessman close to the palace said national pride had delayed remedial action such as devaluation and spending cuts.

"The adjustment should have taken place three years ago, not when we literally ran out of foreign exchange," he said.

## Qatar announces \$1.5b deficit budget

DOHA, Qatar, March 27. (AP): Qatar announced today a new budget with a \$1.5 billion deficit and established a new fiscal year starting April 1, abolishing its previous budget practices based on the variable Islamic calendar year.

The Amir decree with the budget announcement, distributed by the Qatar News Agency, set expenditures at 11.48 billion riyals (\$3.1 billion) and projected revenues at 5.83 billion riyals (\$1.6 billion), leaving a deficit of 5.65 billion riyals (\$1.5 billion).

The agency said this reflected a retrenchment of the expenditures by 7.7 per cent from 12.44 billion riyals (\$3.4 billion) under the national budget which expired in January.

Last year's budget included a 6.11-billion riyal (\$1.67 billion) deficit.

### Spending

Finance and Petroleum Minister Sheikh Abdel Aziz Bin Khalifa Al Thani told QNA that the government would continue to streamline its expenditure and that government agencies were requested to operate within their budgets to help the government maintain control over its spending.

Qatar, like other oil-exporting nations, has been suffering budget deficits for about six years and since oil prices began to sag in the early 1980s.

Sheikh Abdel Aziz said that oil revenues account for the bulk of government earnings and the facts of the oil market had to be taken into consideration since "it is not expected that there will be radical changes in the economic condition (of the oil markets) in the coming year."

QNA's dispatch did not indicate how Qatar expected to cover its budget deficit.

## 'IMF plans in Africa have failed'

ADDIS ABABA, March 27. (Reuters): Africa should devise alternatives to the harsh International Monetary Fund cures for the continent's economic ills, Adebayo Adedeji, head of the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), said today.

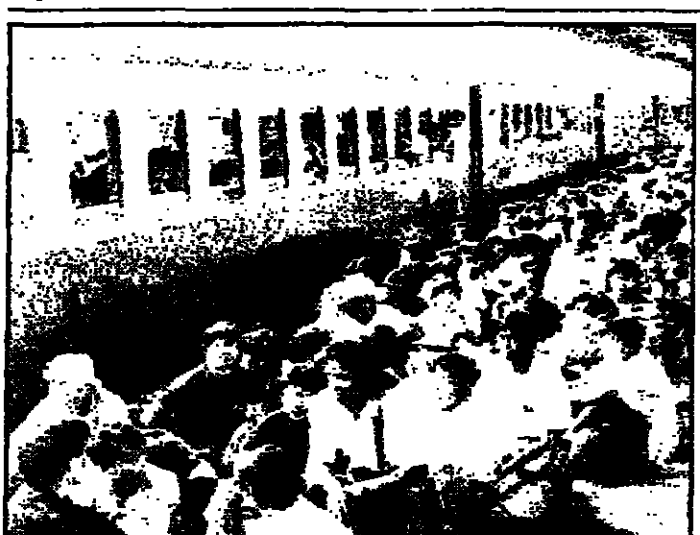
Adedeji said in a speech that about 30 African countries had implemented structural adjustment programmes along guidelines recommended by the IMF and World Bank since the mid-1970s, but none had been successful.

"The countries which undertook the reform programmes did not register any remarkable improvement because of the

programmes' very narrow scope in the treatment of the issue of development in Africa," he said.

"The monetarist approach of the World Bank and IMF programmes, their insensitivity to social, cultural and political realities in Africa as well as their adverse effects on the majority of the population, especially the poor and the vulnerable, have created widespread dissatisfaction," he added.

Opening a meeting of economic experts to prepare for the annual ministerial conference of the ECA in Addis Ababa from April 6-10, Adedeji called on African governments to devise an alternative framework for structural adjustments.



## New immigration law

Some 2,000 workers waiting to go on board a chartered Thai train for Thailand at the railway station in Singapore yesterday. Under Singapore's new immigration law, overstayers and illegal aliens can be caned as well as jailed. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Dollar and Tokyo stocks rise

### Gold gains

TOKYO, March 27. (Reuters): The US dollar jumped above the key 132 yen mark against the Japanese yen in Tokyo for the first time since last October, triggering a slight fall in share prices on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, dealers said.

In crude oil trading, prices soared above the \$19 level in Tokyo for the first time in 18 months on news that a supertanker oil spill closed the major Alaskan port of Valdez, which also serves as a pipeline terminus.

A cargo of the key Brent blend crude oil loading in May traded at \$19.25 on the Tokyo spot market, up 40 cents from Friday's closing level, industry sources said.

Japanese investment trusts and overseas traders bought the

dollar to push it to the closing price of 132.30 yen and 1.8765 West German marks against New York's Friday close of 131.30 yen and 1.8745 marks.

It was the dollar's highest level against the yen since October 7 last year.

But trading was relatively thin with Tokyo currency dealers reluctant to take fresh positions until European traders returned from the Easter holidays.

### Rise

Share prices fell after the dollar's rise encouraged some profit-taking, brokers said. Today was the last day of trade for March delivery and investors were generally sidelined, they said.

"The dollar breaking through 132 yen exaggerated the wait-

and-see mood already hanging over the market, said Toranobu Sugai, a trader at Shearson Lehman Hutton Asia Inc.

The Nikkei index lost 56.12 points, or 0.18 per cent, to end at 31,512.40, near the low of 31,505.20.

Prices were firm most of the day mainly due to heavy buying on shares related to index futures.

The Australian and Hong Kong stock markets were closed because of the Easter holidays.

Gold prices moved marginally higher to about \$392.50 an ounce, up from Friday's New York close of \$392.00.

In New York, the stock market was mixed today against a background of confusion about the US economic outlook.

## 'Cost of laughing' index jumps

SANTA CRUZ, California, March 27. (UPI): A annual tongue-in-cheek "cost of laughing" index jumped 5 per cent during the past year, meaning "we're paying more to laugh less," a humour consultant reports.

A "saucy secretary" singing telegram by Eastern Union in New York jumped from \$55 to \$65 while the wholesale price of rubber chickens remained steady at \$48 a dozen, reports Malcolm Kushner, an attorney who turned humour consultant.

Kushner said he uses a survey of 18 humour indicators to determine the index, including admission to 10 comedy clubs in selected cities and the wholesale prices of rubber chickens, groucho glasses and arrow-through-the-head gags.

A 5 per cent increase, said Kushner, is no joke. "Adjusted for inflation, it means we're paying more to laugh less."

Kushner is a Santa Cruz-based humour consultant to such corporate clients as IBM, Hewlett-Packard, Lockheed and the Internal Revenue Service and gives advice on how to use levity as a management tool.

"Whether or not you think the world needs a humour consultant, it can definitely use one less attorney," he said.

The yearly cost of laughing index, he said, was developed several years ago to track how the punch line affects the bottom line and is issued in time for April Fool's Day.

"This year's index has some good news and some bad news," said Kushner. "The good news is rubber chicken prices have stabilised after jumping 23 per cent between 1986 and 1988. The bad news is they're still too expensive to come home to roost."

## Eastern begins training class for pilots

MIAMI, March 27. (UPI): Eastern Airlines began a six-week training class today for newly hired pilots to replace the company's union pilots who have refused to cross picket lines set up by striking machinists.

Also today, US District Judge Edward Davis met with lawyers from both the company and the pilots union, and scheduled hearings for Thursday on Eastern's request for a court order to force its absentee pilots back to work.

Davis earlier had refused Eastern's request but he was ordered to reconsider his decision on Friday by a three-judge appeals court panel. The panel ordered Davis to hold hearings to investigate Eastern's claim that the walkout by pilots constitutes an illegal strike.

Eastern began its first training class for 40 to 50 pilots hired to replace those that have refused to come to work since March 4.

when members of the International Association of Machinists struck the carrier.

Over the weekend, Eastern pilots said the carrier's northeast shuttle is losing \$2,000 a flight and that it took off last week with as few as three passengers aboard — claims that Eastern officials denounced as "ridiculous."

The Air Line Pilots Association issued a statement on Saturday saying its observers had reported extremely light loads on the shuttle flights during the latter part of the week, although Eastern weekend is traditionally busy.

ALPA said passenger loads averaged between 20 to 30 on Thursday and from 25 to 35 Friday. The union said "many" flights on Thursday carried only three or four passengers, and others took off Friday with no passengers or were cancelled.

"Eastern is losing \$2,000 per

flight, which means it would be cheaper for the company to buy their customers tickets on the Pan Am shuttle and keep their aircraft grounded," the pilots said.

"It is obvious that the crucial business traveller intends to avoid flying Eastern until the strike is ended by a settlement with the unions or until the company is sold," the pilots chided.

The shuttle flights operate daily between Washington, Boston and New York. Billionaire Donald Trump had agreed earlier to buy the shuttle operation for \$365 million. He asked the company last week to lower the price by between \$100 million to \$125 million, saying the strike has reduced the value of the operation.

The sale is still in jeopardy and Eastern is courting other potential buyers.



## \$20m bank scandal

Alexandros Akirakis, president of the state-owned Olympic Airways, is hustled through an agitated crowd of his supporters on his way to testify before the public magistrate yesterday in Athens. Akirakis is charged with breach of faith in connection with a \$20 million bank scandal at the Bank of Crete. The heads of three other state companies have been sent to jail this month on similar charges. (Reuters wirephoto)

## India tough on Nepal trade in signal to neighbours

NEW DELHI, March 27. (Reuters): India is baulking against renewing its two most vital trade treaties with Nepal in a clear signal to its neighbours that they must be prepared to reciprocate if they want favours.

The Indian government last Thursday closed 13 of the 15 transit points, through which landlocked Nepal conducts the bulk of its trade, on the expiry of 10-year-old trade and transit treaties.

Nepal has lost its favoured treatment under the treaties, although the flow of people across the border is unaffected. Petrol is already rationed in the mountainous kingdom.

"The message is: be prepared to reciprocate if you want special privileges," India's External Affairs spokesman said.

The new approach is part of a review of India's South Asia policy. It is aimed at making Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi look tough in dealing with neighbours in a year when he must call general elections, diplomatic sources said.

The main relationship in the region is between India and Pakistan, which have fought three wars since they became independent of Britain in 1947.

Rajiv must look particularly strong against Muslim majority Pakistan to win the electoral support of India's overwhelmingly Hindu population, the diplomats said.

The Nepal issue also puts at

stake the future of the South Asian Association of Regional Co-operation (SAARC), made up of Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, the Maldives and India.

"India is the lynchpin of SAARC. SAARC needs India more than India needs a SAARC that makes us give economic concessions to smaller neighbours," said a senior Indian diplomat.

That issue is at the heart of the dispute with Nepal.

On the surface, India demands unification of the trade and transit pacts to correct what it calls a one-sided arrangement.

Nepal wants them kept separate, arguing that access to seaports for landlocked nations should be a permanent right.

But the deeper conflict between the two countries is Nepal's growing closeness with China, highlighted by Kathmandu's recent purchases of Chinese weapons, the diplomats said.

### Deal

India, which fought China in 1962, regards the weapons deal and the building of a road linking the Chinese region of Tibet to the Indo-Nepal border as a security threat that jeopardised Nepal's role as a buffer state.

Nepal relies on India for almost half its total imports and has some six million people working in India.

New Delhi clearly wants Kathmandu to put its relations with India first.

## TV network employee to join Soviet space flight

TOKYO, March 27. (AP): A Japanese television network has reached agreement with Soviet authorities for one of its employees to board the Soviet space station Mir by the end of 1991, a network official said today.

The agreement was signed between Tokyo Broadcasting System, Inc. executive Kiichi Nakamura and Oleg Firsky, vice president of Glavkosmos, the Soviet commercial space agency, said the official, who refused to be identified.

To mark the network's 40th anniversary, a TBS employee will be flown to the space station on a two-day flight aboard a Soyuz spaceship. During the six-day stay aboard the space station, live broadcasts of the TBS staffer's activities will be shown daily in Japan, he said.

He refused to say how much TBS will pay for the flight.

At TBS headquarters, employees were signing up to be considered for the flight. "Everybody wants to go," said one TBS reporter.

Specific requirements have not been announced, but "if it's a woman, she has to be tall, fairly athletic and she has to be able to swim," the reporter said.

The Mir station was launched in February, 1986 and has a capacity of six passengers.

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## Al Zamil Aluminium signs technology agreement

AL ZAMIL Aluminium has announced the signing of an exclusive technology agreement to manufacture specialised architectural products under technical licence from Construction Specialties International Inc., of the United States.

"The agreement marks the first occasion on which high technology aluminium systems for the construction sector will be available from a source in the Middle East," says Sulaiman Al Zamil, Managing Director of Al Zamil Aluminium.

"These sophisticated architectural systems are increasingly specified for projects in this region."

"There are only a few manufacturers of these products in the world, probably one of the best known is Construction Specialties International."

Products include fixed and chevron blade louvers, extruded and parabolic grills, canopy systems, screens and "rigid-rail" aluminium railings.

Part of the Al Zamil Group, Al Zamil Aluminium has a 17,000 square metre factory and warehouse, employing 460 staff in Dammam, Saudi Arabia.

Aluminium extrusions are obtained from Bahrain. Polyester powder coatings for architectural aluminium extrusions are produced at an Al Zamil facility in Bahrain.

In the terms of the agreement with Construction Specialties, Al Zamil Aluminium will receive complete assistance in production engineering, equipment operation and all related aspects. Selected Al Zamil employees will be trained at the licensor's facilities in USA.

## Mitterrand calls for debt agreement at July summit

PARIS, March 27. (Reuters): France called yesterday for a definitive agreement on easing the Third World's \$1.3-trillion debt at a summit of industrial nations in Paris in July.

Addressing Latin American finance ministers, President Francois Mitterrand said he would push for a debt-reduction agreement among the Group of Seven Western nations when he hosts their annual summit on July 14 to 16.

"I will be requesting that this problem be treated as a priority...the important thing is that we get an accord on the principle of debt reduction, especially the problem of interest," he said.

Mitterrand, who was speaking after a symposium for Latin American finance ministers, detailed the initiative he first announced last September on a news agency to guarantee reduction schemes for Third World countries.

He said the agency should be funded by an issue of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), a unit of account of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) which is pegged to a basket of currencies. The Socialist President said funding should be provided by industrial nations, and complemented by resources from the

IMF, the World Bank, regional development banks, private financial institutions and debtors themselves.

The scheme goes beyond a recent US debt initiative launched by Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady which is replete on the idea of the multilateral financial institutions guaranteeing debt reduction.

Although Mitterrand did not comment directly on the Brady proposals, he said he hoped that with so many initiatives now on the table, it would be possible to work out a compromise. "I hope we will be able to get a convergence of the points of view of the major creditor nations. I will be working for that," said Mitterrand.

French Finance Minister Pierre Berezgou said the world was at a crossroads. "Either we find innovative solutions together...or violence will threaten the progress of democracy."

He said the industrial nations, which last year agreed help for poor countries of sub-Saharan Africa, should in Paris in July find a solution for the middle-income debtors, especially in Latin America.

## Poles ask if round table talks will fill shop shelves

WARSAW, March 27. (Reuters): "Are they still talking? They've been at it for six weeks... isn't it time they got somewhere?" a Polish cleaning woman grumbles.

After more than six weeks of bargaining at "round table" talks, the Polish government and the banned Solidarity trade union say they are on the verge of an historic agreement.

They have almost completed a deal which they hope to sign on April 3, to introduce broad political and social reforms to help set Poland on the road to democracy and economic recovery.

But ordinary Poles are left wondering — will the deal fill the bare shop shelves and ease inflation?

"It's a joke. So what, if they shake hands and sign this or that agreement? Life will go on just the same, in fact it will probably get worse," a Warsaw engineer complained.

According to street interviews by Reuters, most Poles welcome moves towards parliamentary democracy but economic issues are for many the yardstick for success at the talks.

"Legalising Solidarity would be very important. Also, the Communist Party is offering the opposition a share of power, which is something very big for them. But what happens may depend on the economy," an archaeologist in his thirties said.

The government has agreed to legalise Solidarity after a seven-year ban, liberalise elections to allow the opposition to compete for 35 per cent of seats in parliament, and create a democratically-elected Senate

and a powerful president.

But for many, a failure at the talks to make substantial progress on solving economic problems overshadows all else.

Solidarity has proposed an indexation system under which wages would rise automatically with prices. The government has reluctantly accepted the idea in principle but the two sides have been unable to work out details of how it would work.

"The economy is the bottom line. The Senate and the presidency just mean more costs and no real benefits. How much will it cost to support 100 senators?" a retired lawyer said.

"It will be like the old parliament before the war — a grandfather you listen to, but don't take seriously," he said.

Many Poles are apathetic and distrustful after years of hardship, unfulfilled political promises, the suppression of Solidarity under martial law in 1981 and the crushing of every liberalisation bid since communist rule began in 1944.

"I don't pin much hope on the 'round table' talks simply because I've lived under this system for 40 years," a doctor in his sixties said.

"I have two small children and I may have to go abroad for a couple of years so that my family can just live above subsistence level. I have no choice. No round table will change that," a 29-year-old engineer said.

The government, prompted to enter into the talks by pro-Solidarity strikes last summer, hopes a deal with the union will reduce the threat of labour unrest. People have their doubts.

## NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCCH COM	33/7	34/0
ATLANTIC R	89/2	89/1
AAR CORP	26/6	26/4
ABBOTT LAB	51/5	51/5
ACME CLVLD	9/3	9/3
ADV MICRO	8/2	8/2
AEROFL LAB	5/0	5/1
AETNA LIFE	49/5	49/6
AMERSON	16/3	16/3
AIR PR-CHM	41/1	41/4
ALASKA AIR	24/3	24/3
ALBERTSONS	39/4	39/5
ALBMA 8-16	0	82/0
ALCAN ALUM	30/2	30/3
ALCO STAND	26/0	26/0
AM CAP SEC	20/4	20/4
AM CYANAMID	50/5	50/5
AM FAMIL	15/7	16/0
AM HON PRO	84/4	84/6
AM STONARD	0	0
AM STORES	55/5	55/5
AM TEL-TEL	31/2	31/3
AMOCO CORP	80/1	80/1
AMP INC	41/1	41/1
AMPCO PITT	0	14/4
AMR CORP	56/1	56/1
AMR GEN CO	33/1	33/0
AMERADA NE	35/7	35/4
AMERICAN ELE	9/1	9/0
APACHE CO	8/7	9/0
APPAL 8-12	0	82/0
ARMSTRONG	34/5	34/6
ASHLAND OIL	39/0	38/5
ASIA PACIF	8/5	8/4
ATLAS CORP	26/7	27/0
AVERY INT	22/5	22/6
AVNET INC	22/0	21/7
AVON PRODS	21/2	21/2
BCE INC	31/0	30/7
BELLSOUTH	41/4	41/5
BELO CO A	25/3	25/4
BETH STEEL	23/3	23/3
BEVERLY	9/1	9/0
BK BOSTON	24/5	24/5
BK BOSTN-A	0	39/5
BK N-YORK	43/7	43/7
BK TR-NY	39/7	39/7
BKAMERICA	22/5	22/5
BKAM SPEC	6/3	6/3
BOEING CO	64/6	65/0
BOISE CASC	42/0	42/0
BOND IN GLD	8/5	8/6
BORDEN	56/6	56/6
BOWATER	27/4	27/5
BR TELECOM	0	47/4
BRIGGS-STR	27/3	27/1
BRIST-MYER	46/2	46/4
BUNSWICK	18/4	18/5
C 3 INC	10/4	10/3
C HUD G-EL	20/7	20/7
CABOT CORP	41/4	41/5
CAESARS W	29/6	29/6
CAS FREIGHT	23/2	23/1
CAS NAT GS	14/4	14/3
CATSKY CORP	25/6	25/6
CATERPI TR	57/0	56/7
CB IND	26/1	26/2
CBT INC	175/0	172/3
CHAMP INTL	65/0	65/0
CHAMP SP	30/1	30/2
CHARTER CO	5/2	5/2
CHASE MAR	34/4	34/5
CHEMED CP	33/5	33/4
CHEMICAL BK	32/5	32/4
CHEVRON	52/0	51/5
CHRYSLER	24/2	24/5
CHUBB CORP	66/5	66/4
CHUR FR CH	7/2	7/3
CIGNA CORP	52/4	52/4
CIN MILACR	22/1	22/2
CIR CIT ST	43/0	43/0
CIRCLE K	15/3	15/2
CITICORP	27/7	27/6
CLARK EQUI	33/5	33/5
CLOROX	31/4	31/5
CMPIRES RES	15	15
CMPIRES SP	31/3	31/3
CMR PACIFIC	18/7	19/0
COACHMEN	33/7	33/7
COASTAL	50/0	50/3
COCA-COLA	15	15
COLECO	75/0	75/0
COLEMAN CO	46/3	46/2
COLUM GAS	34/3	34/1
COLUMBUS-C	112/4	112/0
CON EDISON	32/6	33/3
CONAGRA	31/0	31/1
CON EDISON	45/0	45/0
CONTINENTAL	31/6	31/6
CONTL ILLN	*03	*02
CONTEL CP	49/2	49/2
CONTR DATA	20/1	20/2
COOPER T-R	24/7	24/5
COOPER COR	4/1	4/1
CORNING GL	33/6	33/7
CRAY RES	54/3	54/1
CULLINNET	5/0	4/7
DANA CORP	37/5	37/5
DANIEL IND	12/6	12/5
DATA GEN	15/2	15/4
DAYTON HUD	43/3	43/4
DEC	96/7	96/7
DEERE-CO	49/4	49/6
DELTA AIR	57/2	57/0
DIAMOND SH	19/4	19/5
DIEBOLD	43/5	43/3
DISNEY W	75/5	75/7
DOVER CORP	27/7	28/1
DOW CHEM	88/6	89/6
DOW JONES	30/3	30/3
DRESSER IN	35/5	35/6
DREYFUS	27/4	27/5
DUKE POWER	43/6	43/6
DUN BRAD	50/5	50/6
DUPONT	99/7	100/0
DUNESIE	17/3	17/4
DYNAMICS	23/3	23/0
E SYSTEMS	27/6	27/5
EAGLE PICH	13/7	13/7
EASTERN G	24/3	24/4
EMERSON EL	29/7	30/0
EMERSON RA	4/0	4/1
ETHYL CP	24/1	24/2
EXON	44/0	44/4
FAN DOL ST	10/6	10/6
FED NAT MO	63/2	63/2
FIELDCREST	26/1	26/0
FLEETWOOD	28/5	29/0
FLENNING CO	32/3	32/3
FMC CORP	34/0	34/1
FORD MOTOR	48/2	48/3
FOSTER WHL	16/6	16/6
FRCHLD IND	13/6	14/0
FREE MC OG	5/0	5/0
FST BANK	19/6	19/6
FST CHICAG	36/6	36/7
FST INTERS	46/5	46/7
FST MISSIP	19/2	19/2
GAF CORP	51/7	52/0
GANNETT CO	36/3	36/5
GALVESTON	3/1	3/0
GATX CORP	53/4	53/6
GCA CO	0	5/2
GEN DATA	5/3	5/3

GEN DYNMCS	53/4	53/4	MOTOROLA	39/7	39/7	SEAGULL EN	0	17/1
GEN ELEC	43/7	43/7	MURSH-MCLEEN	59/2	59/2	SEALED AIR	45/4	45/2
GEN HOST	8/4	8/4	MURPHY OIL	35/0	35/0	SEARS ROE	42/2	42/4
GEN HOSUR	10/7	11/0	NAT INTERG	17/1	17/1	SERV CORP	18/0	18/0
GEN INSTR	27/6	27/5	NBI CORP	0	1/8	SA STH PAC	21/2	21/2
GEN HILLS	57/7	57/6	NCR CORP	54/2	53/6	SHRSH MUTT	19/5	19/5
GEN MOTORS	82/5	82/7	NEW ENG EL	22/5	22/5	SHELL TRAN	41/0	41/2
GEN SIGNAL	49/2	49/2	NEW PLA RE	15/4	15/4	SHER PLOU	61/4	62/2
GENCORP	18/0	18/0	NEWELL CO	32/0	32/0	SMITH INT	10/0	10/1
GETEWECH	19/0	19/1	NEWMONT MI	38/0	37/6	SMITHK BEC	53/0	53/2
GENUINE PA	36/2	36/1	NEWMONT GLD	35/3	35/3	SNAP ON TL	35/5	35/7
GEO PWT-80	0	75/4	NI MOHS-10	0	58/0	SOURCE CAP	37/6	37/7
GEORGI-PAC	42/0	42/3	NI MOHS-72	0	73/2	SOUTHERN	23/2	23/2
GIBR FI CL	09	08	NICOLET IN	10/3	10/3	SPAIN FUND	11/5	11/4
GOLDEN HUG	17/4	17/4	NICOR INC	30/3	30/5	SPERRY	0	10/4
GOODRICH	52/3	52/2	NL INDS	22/5	22/5	SQUARE D	52/4	52/5
GOODYEAR	45/1	45/2	NOBLE AFF	11/4	11/3	SQUIBB	29/5	29/5
GRACE UR	30/7	30/7	NORD RESOU	12/1	12/1	STONE CONT	29/5	29/5
GRATINGER	54/0	54/0	NORTHROP	26/6	26/6	SUN CO	34/3	34/5
GREYHOUND	29/5	29/4	NORTON	45/5	45/6	SUNSTRAND	54/6	54/5
GRUMMAN	21/6	22/0	NOVO IND	41/2	41/3	SUNSH MIN	3/4	3/4
GULF RES-C	0	11/2	NUCOR CORP	47/4	47/3	SUPER VAL	23/1	23/0
GULF-WESTN	46/1	46/1	OAK INDS	1/1	1/0	SOUTHWEST	23/7	23/7
HALLIBURTON	30/1	30/1	OCC PETRCP	26/5	26/4	SW GAS	17/4	17/4
HALLWOOD	15/2	15/3	OCEAN DRIL	17/1	17/3	SUN BELL	43/7	44/1
HANNA MIN	22/5	22/6	ODEN CORP	27/1	27/0	TOK	60/4	61/1
HARRIS CP	27/6	27/6	OK ED CO	20/0	20/0	TECO EMERG	22/6	22/5
HARTMARX	27/0	27/0	OKIO MATT	24/5	24/5	TEKTRONIX	20/6	21/0
HEINZ NJ	48/3	48/4	OLIN CORP	51/6	51/6	TELEPHONE	34/72	34/76
HEL CURTIS	0	47/0	OMNICARE	8/4	8/3	TELEPHONIC	23/5	23/5
HELM-PAYNE	26/7	26/6	ORION PICT	15/1	15/1	TELEX CORP	0	49/0
HERCULES	46/3	46/1	PAINE WEB	17/4	17/5	TERADYNE	11/3	11/3
HEWLETT-PACK	51/4	51/5	PAN AM	4/2	4/2	TESORO PET	12/1	12/0
HIXCEL CP	30/0	30/0	PANHANDLE	20/7	20/7	TEK AMER B	0	0
HILLBURN	27/2	27/2	PARKER DRI	5/4	5/4	TEX EAS TR	51/0	51/0
HILLENBRND	35/5	35/5	PARKER HAN	27/2	27/3	TEKACO	52/7	52/7
HILTM HITS	52/1	52/4	PATRICK PET	5/3	5/2	TEXAS IND	33/7	33/7
HITACHI	115/2	116/4	PULLMAN CO	0	87/4	TEXAS INST	37/3	37/3
HMTKE MIN	13/7	14/0	PC IND-96	0	0	TEKTRON	26/5	26/6
HNDY-HARM	19/1	19/3	PEASUS	12/5	12/5	THOMAS MED	0	22/3
HOLIDAY C	28/7	29/0	PENNAUT	23/1	23/0	TIDWATER	9/7	9/7
HOMER DEPOT	33/7	33/6	PENNAUT	130/2	130/2	TIME INCOR	117/6	118/4
HOMERF CP	32/2	32/3	PENNZOIL	82/6	83/0	TIMKEN	34/1	34/1
HONDA MOTR	142/0	143/4	PEOPLES EN	20/7	21/0	TORCHMARK	32/1	32/2
HONEYWELL	66/2	66/6	PEPSICO	43/2	43/4	TOSCO	4/2	4/2
HOUGHTON MI	45/3	45/4	PFIZER	55/4	55/7	TOYS R US	37/3	37/2
HOUSTON IN	27/2	27/1	PHILIPS DOD	53/6	53/6	TRANSAMER	33/4	33/4
HUGHES SUP	18/3	18/4	PHILIP MOR	114/7	114/7	TRANSCO EN	36/3	36/2
HUMANA INC	29/0	28/6	PHILIPS PE	22/5	22/4	TRANSCO EX	5/6	5/6
IBM	109/4	109/4	PINACULA W	14/0	13/7	TRAVELLERS	38/3	38/3
ICI PHARMA	6/4	6/3	PITN-BOWES	41/2	41/3	TRINITY INT	32/0	32/0
ILL PAIR CO	17/7	17/7	PITTSBURG	18/1	18/1	TV CORP	31/5	31/4
ILLIN 4-08	0	19/0	POLAROID	35/4	35/4	TYCO LABS	34/3	34/3
INDRA-GRA	9/4	9/4	PORTLAND C	21/6	21/5	UAL CORP	112/6	113/2
INGRILL-R	37/0	37/0	PPG INDOS	42/7	43/1	UTD BRAND	0	14/6
JEFF PILOT	32/2	32/3	PRIME CORP	17/1	17/0	UTD TECH	43/1	43/0
JER PWT-8-5	81/0	80/2	PRIME INNS	25/5	25/5	UNILEVER	61/5	61/4
JOHNSON CON	34/6	34/6	PRIMERICA	21/4	21/3	UNION CAMP	34/6	34/5
JOHNSON-JNS	87/7	87/5	PROCT-GAMB	91/2	91/2	UNION CARB	29/4	29/4
K MART CP	37/4	37/6	PUGET SP-L	18/4	18/5	US SHOE	18/4	18/4
KAM CI P-L	29/0	29/0	PULTE HOME	12/3	12/3	USX CP	30/4	30/4
KELLWOOD	29/2	29/3	QUAKER OAT	16/0	16/0	US WEST	31/3	31/3
KERR MCCEE	41/5	41/4	QUAKER COR	50/6	50/5	US AIR CP	38/7	38/8
KEYSTONE	19/6	19/4	QUANTUM CH	51/5	51/7	VALERO EN	14/0	14/0
KIMB-CLARK	59/4	59/5	RALS PURIN	79/1	79/2	VALLEY IND	21/1	21/2
KLN R D AI	20/3	20/2	RAMGODA TNN	11/0	11/0	VARCO INTL	4/0	4/0
KN RID NMS	44/6	44/6	RAMDA OIL	5/6	5/7	VARIAN ASC	26/1	25/5
KROGER CP	10/1	10/1	RAYCHEM	35/4	35/5	V PNT PEPP	57/5	57/5
LEA RONAL	0	17/4	RAYMARK	2/0	2/0	WATNOC PIP	6/5	6/5
LEHMAN	11/6	11/6	RAYTHEON	66/0	66/0	WAL MART	31/7	32/0
LEHMAN	20/4	20/5	REYNOLD ME	51/2	51/4	WALGREEN	35/1	35/1
LINCOLN NA	48/6	48/6	RJR NABISC	86/5	86/5	WARNER CORP	47/0	47/0
LITTON IND	74/6	74/6	ROCHES G-E	17/5	17/2	WARRIOR LAM	80/0	80/0
LOCKHEED	44/7	44/7	ROCKWELL	21/1	21/1	WASTE MA	43/4	43/4
LOCITTE CP	36/6	37/0	ROHM HAAS	32/6	32/7	WASH GAS L	24/2	24/2
LOEWS CORP	86/2	86/1	ROHLS INDS	32/2	32/4	WENDY INTL	6/3	6/3
LOW-METTEL	0	30/5	ROLLING INC	11/1	11/1	WEST CO	0	16/2
LONG STAR	29/5	29/5	ROLLINS IN	17/2	17/2	WESTINGHOUSE	52/5	52/5
LOWES	23/1	23/2	ROMAN GRP	38/6	38/6	WICKES COM	8/0	8/0
LTD INC	27/5	27/5	ROMAN COMP	6/3	6/3	WILLIAMS C	30/1	30/1
LTV CORP	2/2	2/1	ROYL DUTCH	61/6	61/6	WILLIAMS E	7/1	7/1
LTV 1-25	0	2/6	RSS BERRATE	17/0	17/1	WINNEGAO	81/6	81/5
LTV 3-068	3/7	4/0	RYDER SYST	24/5	24/6	WOLVER W	12/7	12/7
LTV 5-25	0	10/6	RYLAND GRP	21/4	21/3	WOOLWORTH	48/4	48/4
LUBRIZOL	36/7	36/5	S DIEG G-E	37/0	37/0	WORLDCORD	0	6/6
LUBYS CFS	26/3	26/4	SALOMON	24/2	24/2	WRIGLEY	36/2	36/2
			SARA LEE	47/4	47/3	WYLE LABS	8/2	8/2
			SC ATLANTA	14/0	14/1	XEROX CORP	59/1	59/0
			SCOTT PPR	40/6	41/4	ZAPATA	2/7	2/7
			SCOTT TTT	11/6	11/4	ZATRE CORP	24/6	24/6
			SE BANK CO	23/2	23/4	ZENITH EL	18/5	18/4
			SEARGAM CO	67/2	67/3	ZERO	18/3	18/3



Currency rates		
KUWAIT, March 27, (KUNA): Following are the international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait, today.		
	Buying	Selling
US dollar	0.28915	0.29030
Sterling	0.496183	0.499023
Dm.	0.154008	0.154950
S. fr.	0.177175	0.178206
F. fr.	0.045535	0.045788
l. ira	0.0002090	0.0002110

S. rival	0.077065	0.077433
O. rival	0.078387	0.079807

## Kuwait dinar deposit rates mixed in quiet market

KUWAIT, March 27, (Reuters): Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates were mixed in a quiet market day before a new offering of 150 million dinars (\$520 million) in treasury bills.

Overnight rates were well-offered at four per cent after dealing at seven on Sunday. Tomorrow-next dealt at three after quotes of nine eight. Dealers said some banks had apparently been caught long on short-term funds.

They said the new bills, offered tomorrow for Wednesday issue, were likely to draw in liquidity from the market.

### Steady

Spot-next and one-week were both steady at nine eight and

months, but not in other periods. Six months and one-year were quoted at 93.41:4.

The Central Bank adjusted its dinar to dollar exchange rate to 0.28940/50 from 0.28918/28 on Sunday.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal inter-bank deposits eased in a thin and uncertain market today, with many offshore players still absent due to the long Easter weekend in Europe.

Dealers said business focussed on short-dated funds as traders covered positions. Spot-next and one-week dealt at levels of 10, 9-5/8 per cent, little changed from Sunday.

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## World Bank post for Baijal

NEW DELHI, March 27: J.S. Baijal, secretary, Planning Commission, will soon be appointed executive director in the World Bank, it is reliably learnt. He will replace Krishnaswamy Rao Sahib.

Baijal was due to retire in May. He has extensive experience of dealing with multilateral institutions like the World Bank because of his earlier stint as additional secretary, external finance, in the Finance Ministry.

The tenure of Krishnaswamy Rao Sahib as executive director ended in October last year. But he was given an extension till a new appointment was made by the Indian government.

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# Brady's debt plan to face first big test

WASHINGTON, March 27. (AP): The US government's plan to relieve the staggering Third World debt burden faces its first big test this week when Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady tries to sell the proposal to finance ministers from around the world.

The sales talk will come at the spring meeting of the 151-nation International Monetary Fund and World Bank. The two major lending organisations, and at a separate strategy session attended by officials from the seven largest industrial countries.

The sessions should be lively. Already, the Brady plan is being viewed as a crucial watershed for the 7-year debt crisis, which has at various times threatened financial calamity for major US banks and turned Latin America into a political time bomb as struggling democracies in the region tried to cope with growing debt

repayments.

The Brady plan, as the new initiative is being called, seeks to encourage commercial banks to voluntarily forgive part of the \$1.3 trillion in debt owed by poor countries in return for guarantees backed by the IMF and World Bank that the remaining pool of debt will be repaid.

The new administration received high marks for abandoning what many considered to be the failed policies of the administration of President Ronald Reagan, which repeatedly refused to endorse any broad-scale effort at debt forgiveness.

But critics, including many of the largest debtor countries, complain that the Brady proposal does not go far enough, especially in view of the economic and political pressures building in much of Latin America.

Riots in Venezuela last month left more

than 300 people dead after the government announced a new austerity programme implemented to please the IMF and other creditors who hold \$33 billion of that country's debt.

The administration of President George Bush is hoping to come out of the IMF and World Bank session with a general endorsement of the principles of the new debt approach when the meetings wrap up on Tuesday. But many of the debtor countries are pushing for quick debt relief to accompany the rhetoric.

## Observers

Venezuela's President Carlos Andres Perez has termed the Brady proposals "very timid" and officials in that country are already saying they may have to defer debt repayments if they don't get help soon. Similar warnings have come from Mexico.

Some observers say that the Brady plan, while attempting to resolve the debt crisis, may initially lead to a greater period of instability as debtors balk at meeting obligations on their old debt while they wait to see the details of the debt relief packages.

Former Federal Reserve chairman Paul Volcker, who played a leading role in the initial US response to the debt crisis in 1982, has warned that debt reduction could end up hurting both creditor and debtor countries if not properly managed.

Most observers believe the United States must come up with concrete results quickly. At least with new initiatives for Mexico and Venezuela, or risk more turmoil because of dashed expectations. "It is important that debtor nations not get their expectations too high. The Brady proposal represents a measured improvement."

## ACC plans to set up single flight zone

CAIRO, March 27. (KUNA): Board chairmen of national airlines of the four-member Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) states decided in their final meeting last night to establish a single flight zone.

The council also agreed to set up a permanent joint secretariat-general and a specialised technical committee in Amman.

A trade committee will be stationed in Sanaa and another laws and regulations committee in Cairo. A financial committee will be established in Baghdad.

Chairman of Egypt Air Ali Ziko, said yesterday that the council decided to hold its annual meeting in each country respectively, adding that the forthcoming meeting will be held in Baghdad on April 10.

Each country will nominate two members, one of them representing the aviation committee and another representing the national company, the Egyptian official added.

## Co-operation

The meeting also attended by civil aviation officials from Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and Yemen Arab Republic discussed enhancing co-operation among the four airline companies in the fields of maintenance, exchange of spare parts and expertise and opening of new routes.

The four national carriers announced the four states as single flight zone, the Egyptian official reiterated.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Gandhi dedicates first supercomputer

NEW DELHI, India, March 27. (AP): Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi yesterday dedicated the country's first supercomputer, which will be used to provide farmers with more precise weather forecasts.

The Cray XMP-14, obtained from the United States at a cost of \$500 million, has been installed at the National Centre for Medium-range Weather Forecasting.

Gandhi thanked former US President Ronald Reagan for his interest in the project and helping India get its first supercomputer.

The government says the Cray XMP-14 will be used to provide weather forecasts three to 10 days in advance, to prepare advisories and to study the impact of weather and climate on pests and diseases.

### New strategy to increase tourism in India

NEW DELHI, March 27. (KUNA): Tourism has emerged as a single largest foreign exchange earner for India.

India earns more than \$1.3 billion annually from the tourism, making it a major foreign exchange earner, an official of the Tourism Ministry said. However, India's share in the world tourism has been meagre 0.3 per cent.

Tourism and Civil Aviation Secretary, S.K. Misra, said that the Indian government had taken definite strategy for increasing the share of India in the world tourism market.

He said non-availability of airline seats has been a serious constraint in increasing flow of tourist traffic from most of the tourist generating nations. Tourism facilitation services are being improved to attract more tourists from Europe and the Arab nations.

Over 1.5 million foreign tourists visited India in 1988, which accounts for increase of 8 per cent over the previous year.

### O'Hare reclaims title of busiest airport

CHICAGO, March 27. (AP): O'Hare International has reclaimed its distinction as the world's busiest airport, according to statistics that show it logged more traffic last year than Atlanta's Hartsfield International.

O'Hare served 58.9 million passengers, while Atlanta handled 45.9 million, according to the statistics from the Chicago Department of Aviation, and the Chicago airport logged a record 803,453 departures and landings, to Hartsfield's 778,779.

In 1987, Atlanta had 796,600 departures and arrivals — about 4,000 more than O'Hare — although the Chicago airport handled more passengers, by 58.8 million to 47.5 million.

John Braden, a Hartsfield spokesman, said a major reason for the drop in traffic in Atlanta was a decline in discounted fares and service cuts by Eastern Airlines.

## Stock-trading scandal widens

# Ex-NTT chairman charged with bribery

TOKYO, March 27. (AP): Prosecutors today filed bribery charges against the former chairman of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp., Japan's telecommunications giant and the world's most highly valued company, in Japan's widening stock-trading scandal.

Hisashi Shinto violated laws prohibiting NTT workers from receiving money and valuables in exchange for favours, the Tokyo district public prosecutors office said today.

The bribery charge against the powerful industrialist, who has close ties to influential politicians, means the investigation into the shares-for-influence affair will likely be extended to politicians.

Prosecutors also filed bribery charges against Hiromasa Ezoe, an executive who masterminded the information-peddling affair, and Hiroshi Kobayashi, his aide, for bribing Shinto.

Ezoe is the former chairman of the information conglomerate Recruit Co., whose real estate subsidiary Recruit-Cosmos Co. offered its shares at bargain prices to influential politicians and businessmen. Kobayashi was former president of First Finance Co., a Recruit subsidiary, involved in financing the transactions.

The charges were filed after the Tokyo Stock Exchange ended trading today, but the share price of NTT, once considered the

bluest of blue chip shares in the lucrative Tokyo Stock Exchange with its total estimated at 10.5 billion yen, plummeted to an all-time low.

## Charges

NTT closed today at 1.53 million yen (\$11,680) a share in anticipation of the charges, dealers said. Its previous low was 1.58 million yen (\$12,060) marked last Wednesday.

Ezoe and Kobayashi sold Shinto 10,000 unlisted Recruit-Cosmos shares in 1986 at artificially low prices shortly before the stock was listed on the public market. The share price shot up immediately after listing and Shinto earned about 22 million yen (\$168,000) in profits.

Shinto at first denied knowledge of the stock deal, but, when caught lying to the press, later admitted his involvement. Shinto stepped down as the first chairman of the former government-owned telecommunications monopoly.

In arresting and pressing charges against Shinto and 11 others for bribery since late February, prosecutors cited the 1987 Supreme Court decision that dealing in stocks certain to rise in value and difficult for the general public to obtain can amount to bribery.

Prosecutors maintain Shinto provided Recruit with various favours, including helping Recruit expand its telecommunications business in return for the

stocks. NTT practically monopolises telecommunications in Japan.

Shinto is also suspected of helping Recruit buy US supercomputers. NTT bought four US supercomputers since 1986 and resold two to Recruit. They are kept on NTT premises and maintained by NTT engineers.

## Role

Opposition parties said they suspect Former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone also played a role in the supercomputer transactions. Nakasone promised the US government in 1986 that Japan would purchase US supercomputers to ease trade friction between the two countries.

Nakasone was among 17 politicians who bought Recruit-Cosmos shares and earned handsome profits. Three of his aides purchased 29,000 shares and earned about 60 million yen (\$458,000) while Nakasone was in office.

Opposition parties have stalled parliamentary business by demanding the government summon Nakasone to the assembly to testify about his role in the affair. Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita has refused opposition demands.

The scandal has severely damaged the Takeshita government. Several opinion polls show the administration's popularity has plunged to below 15 per cent, the lowest since Takeshita took office in November 1987.

# US current account deficit to rise to about \$150b in 1992

## Major policy switch needed

WASHINGTON, March 27. (UPI): The relentless US trade gap, which finally improved in the past two years, will start rising again by 1990 unless the government enacts major policy changes, according to a prominent international economist.

The US current account deficit, the broadest measure of trade, will rise to about \$150 billion in 1992 while the surpluses of Japan and West Germany are likely to increase to \$135 billion and \$85 billion, respectively, said William Cline in "American trade adjustment: the global impact."

The current account deficit, which includes merchandise and financial flows, shrank by 12 per cent to \$135.3 billion from 1987 to 1988.

## Action

The book, published by the Institute for International Economics, was scheduled to be unveiled at a news conference.

Cline argued that US failure to take new action to reverse the worsening trade gap will endan-

ger US economic growth and health, in part by encouraging new protectionist measures by Congress.

Failure to act also would result in the US trade deficit never falling below \$115 billion per year — requiring America to borrow overseas more than \$10 billion a month indefinitely. The buildup of foreign debt would exceed \$1 trillion by 1992, Cline said, risking a collapse in the dollar and triggering a surge in inflation, higher interest rates and possibly a recession.

In order to head off these problems, the United States must reduce its massive budget deficit as envisioned by the Gramm-Rudman balanced budget law, Cline said. In balancing the budget within four years, US consumers would reduce demand for foreign products and the trade deficit would be cut to a more sustainable level of \$50 billion a year, he said.

The US also must push for a 10-per cent decline in the value of the dollar against major foreign

currencies by the end of 1990 to make American goods cheaper and more attractive abroad while foreign goods become more expensive in America. The dollar lost more than 50 per cent of its value against the Japanese yen and the West German mark since 1985, when then-Treasury Secretary James Baker and other top financial leaders of major industrial democracies agreed on a global economic strategy under terms of the Plaza accord.

The improvement in the US balance of trade has stalled, Cline said, due to a continuing high US demand for imports and because positive effects of the dollar depreciation, which effectively ended in late 1987, have been exhausted, among other reasons.

Cline is a senior fellow at the Institute for International Economics, a private, non-partisan research foundation. He has served as a top trade official in the Treasury Department and is an assistant professor at Princeton University.

# World Bank, IMF clash over scope

WASHINGTON, March 27. (AP): A feud is smouldering between two world institutions based in Washington with billions of dollars to lend and the power to make deeply indebted countries tighten their belts.

The disagreement between the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund centres around the division of work between them. Which should be telling governments to devalue their currencies? Which should require cuts in government spending? Which should look at long-term problems? How long is long-term?

The 151 governments that own the bank and the IMF, which get together every spring and fall, start meetings in the coming week. Their ministers of finance and central bankers will have a lot to say about the debt of Third World countries, now over \$1.2 trillion. What the two organisations can do about it depends on clearing up just what their roles should be, or even whether they should be merged.

The IMF is a United Nations agency formed to promote international monetary co-operation and currency stabilisation, and expansion of world trade.

The World Bank has the same 151 member governments as the IMF in its major component, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). Other components are the International Development Association (IDA) and

the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady has put out some new ideas on how to reduce the debt, but critics are saying they may be too little and too late. Other governments are expected to suggest doing more.

Before the meetings open, President Barber Conable of the bank, a former Congressman from New York, and managing director Michel Camdessus of the fund, a Frenchman, are trying to agree on how to co-operate. The United States and nine other leading governments have asked Lamberto Dini, the No. 2 at the Italian government's Central Bank, to report on improving the relations between the twin institutions.

"If they don't get their act together, there's going to be more pressure to merge them," said C. Fred Bergsten, who heads the Private Institute for International Economics.

"That would be a mistake, because they would only have to be separated again after a few years," Bergsten used to be in charge of US relations with them as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for International Affairs.

Both organisations are linked to the United Nations, but they have something it lacks: teeth. By giving or holding back loans and by the conditions they set, they can sometimes make or break governments.

## More fruit cleared for import

WASHINGTON, March 27. (AP): The Food and Drug Administration has cleared the way for more Chilean fruit — apples, peaches and plums — to be sold to US markets after they are inspected for evidence of cyanide poisoning.

The FDA action came on Friday, import restrictions were lifted on pears and nectarines from Chile on Tuesday, and on grapes and berries on March 17, allowing the fruit to be released for sale after five per cent of each shipment is inspected and found free from cyanide.

Grapes, which constitute 70 per cent of the fruit Chile sends to the United States, began appearing on produce shelves of US stores this week after a two-week absence due to the cyanide poisoning scare.

More than one million cases of

grapes and various types of berries have been inspected at US docks and airports and sent to retailers since the hold on those fruits was lifted, the FDA said.

Food graders should begin inspecting Chilean apples, peaches and plums by the weekend, an FDA spokesman said.

"The public should be reassured that the government has kept everyone informed and has moved promptly both to protect the public health and to restore to the marketplace a healthy component of the balanced diet that we recommend," said FDA commissioner Frank Young.

Chile also exports melons to the United States at this time of the year, but FDA spokesman William Grigg said, "It is not clear whether they will be returned to the (US) market or not, this season."

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## Formative Arts display

● The Kuwait Formative Arts Exhibition opened on Sunday at the Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem Gallery. Paintings, sculptures and watercolours by Kuwaiti, Egyptian, Jordanian, Palestinian, Syrian and Yemeni artists are on show. Left: a painting by Kuwaiti artist Modj Al Hajji. Above: the anguish of a child. (Photos by Ahmed Burini)

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

## WHAT'S ON

## ARTS

## Sultan Gallery

AN exhibition of paintings by Shaker Hussain will be held from March 28 at the gallery, Thunayan Al Ghanim Bldg., Al Soor St.

## Boushahri Gallery

GRAPHIC art by Bulgarian artists are on show at 6 pm at the gallery in Salmiya. It will be open daily from 9 am to 12.30 noon and 4 to 8.30 pm, until March 28.

## THEATRE

## ACT

MARCH 28, 29, 30 (8 pm): ACT presents Jean Giraudoux' comic fantasy "The Madwoman of Chailot," directed by George Plantz, at Mousetrap Theatre, Jabriya. Reduced ticket price for opening night. For reservations call 5731782 (answerphone) or 5755391, 5-7 pm.

## Malayalam Drama

APRIL 7: Gayathi Arts will present their first Malayalam drama "Karutha Purnami" at Indian Arts Circle. Written by Chandrasekhar and directed by Nandana Pringalada. For entry passes call 5643126.

## MUSIC

## Beat Concert

MARCH 31: Vishal Arts present a beat concert featuring Symphony and Perfect Strangers from 3.30 pm at the Sharq Co-operative Hall. At 6 pm the group will present a variety show with Hindi, Urdu and Punjabi music and folk dances. For details call Anthony D'Souza or Arjun Gehi. Tel: 2631826 or 2663693 after 3.30 pm.

## Saz aur Awaz

SAAZ aur Awaz will hold a musical called "Bhooley Bhooley Geet and Ghazals" on May 19. They would like new singers to join their group. For details contact H. Abdullah — 3989111 ext. 6811, 8 am to 3 pm.

## Open-Air Concert

MARCH 31: Steve Michael with the Zambesi will feature in the "Peace and Love" concert at the Salmiya Club stadium. The show starts at 5 pm. Tickets are now available from Swan Lake, Salmiya/Kuwait City; No. 1 records, Sultan Center, Salmiya.

## CINEMA

## Iraqi Film Festival

AN Iraqi film festival is being held in Kuwait. It will continue till March 29. The following films will be shown:

March 28: Shay Min Al Quwwah, starring Miqdad Abdul Rida, Khalil Shawki.

March 29: Al Bait, starring Athar Khidr, Awaif Ibrahim. All films will be shown at 7.30 pm at the auditorium of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry. Children not permitted inside the auditorium.

## SOCIAL

## KAPILKU

MARCH 28 (8 pm): KAPILKU will hold an officer's meeting. Topics to be discussed include Palarong Pilipino, baking and cooking classes, hotel and restaurant operations. KAPILKU night and Bayanihan.

## FLASSIK Barn Dance

MARCH 31: 5 pm: "Barn Dance in Spring" will be held by FLASSIK, the Filipino ladies association, at the Andalus Club, Holiday Inn Hotel. The highlight of the evening will be a selection of dances for all seasons.

## Bangladesh Association

MARCH 31: (7 pm): The Bangladesh Association will hold a cultural function to mark the Independence and National Day of Bangladesh. The event will be held at the Hawali Labour Union Hall. All Bangladeshis are welcome.

## Bangladeshi get-together

MARCH 31: Bangladeshi families will hold a spring get-together at Rawda Park from 8 am. The programme includes games for children and adults and a lucky draw. For details call 4317145; 3713923 after 4 pm.

## KAPILKU

MARCH 31: A baking class, from 9.30 am to 12 noon and a cooking class (Asian dishes), from 1.30 to 4.30 pm will be held at the Pullman Hotel Entrance free for all KAPILKU members. Tel: Ojje Olor or Jojo on 5327023.

## Southerners get-together

MARCH 31: The Southerners will hold a get-together at Carlton Towers Hotel from 10 am to 4 pm. Next of Kin will provide musical entertainment. For details ring 2425705 or 4831484.



## Bangladeshi reception

The Ambassador of Bangladesh, K.M. Shehabuddin, and his wife hosted a reception on Sunday at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Kuwait, to celebrate their country's Independence and National Day. The reception was attended by the Minister of State for Service Affairs, Issa Mohammed Al Mazidi, high ranking Kuwaiti officials and ambassadors. Photos show Shehabuddin receiving the Foreign Ministry Undersecretary, Sulaiman Majeed Al Shahrani (left) and Palestinian Ambassador Awni Battash as Mrs. Shehabuddin looks on.

## Indo-Pak fashion at tea party

PAKISTANI Fawzia Ayoub and Indian Tapati Ray, two freelance designers based in Kuwait, will show their latest collections at a fashion show at the International Ladies Tea Party get-together on Wednesday at the Holiday Inn Hotel.

Fawzia, who picked up designing as a hobby, has shown her collection at various gatherings for women. She designs and models her own clothes.

Tapati, who studied designing in London, is in search of a style for the fashion conscious woman and blends the Oriental and Western design concepts to cater to a wide clientele. In recent months, Tapati has shown her collection at several shows.

The International Ladies Tea Party, a meeting point for ladies of all nationalities, is run by Seema Faruqi, a former active member of the now defunct Pakistan Ladies Club. Assisted by Ruksana Rashid she organises the get-togethers that give ladies a chance to make new friends.



Ensembles shown by Tapati at a recent fashion show.

## NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait:  
Al Omar Pharmacy  
Awaf Bldg., Mubarak Al Kabir St.  
Al Kayther Pharmacy  
Abdullah Al Mubarak St.  
Hawalli and Nigra  
Al Kamal Pharmacy  
Tunis St.  
Salmiya and Rumaithiya  
Im Nafees Pharmacy

Hmoud Khalifa Al Humaidi Bldg., Hamad Al Mubarak St.  
Fahad and Ahmadi  
Al Adil Pharmacy  
Awadhi Bldg., F'heel  
Jleeb Al Shiyookh  
Palestine Pharmacy  
Main St.  
Jahra  
Al Noor Pharmacy  
Abdul Aziz Nasrullah Bldg., Matafi St.

## CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus  
Mission Terminates (Arabic)  
Al Salmiya  
Arabic play  
Al Hana  
Al Majnoon (Arabic)  
Starring: Shahira, Hussein Sharbini, Issad Yunus

Granada  
Aparan (Malayalam)  
Salaabikhat  
Mad Mission III  
Al Jleeb  
Phool Sajja (Bengali)  
Ahmadi Drive-in  
Ya Azizi Kullana Lisous (Arabic)

## PRAYERS

Fajr	4.21 am
Zuhr	11.53
Asr	3.23 pm
Maghreb	6.05
Isha	7.22

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

## KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran  
9.15 Cartoon Serial  
10.00 Al Mubarak: Arabic serial  
11.00 Al Daktoor: Arabic serial  
12.00 Variety Show  
1.00 News Summary  
1.05 World News via Satellite/Closedown

## EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran  
4.15 World News via Satellite  
4.45 Cartoon Serial  
5.15 Tum Tek and Children  
5.30 We and Our Friends  
6.00 Al Islam Wal Insaan: religious programme  
6.30 Songs and Music  
7.05 News Summary  
7.15 Agricultural Magazine  
7.50 Li Kulli Suwal Jawaab: Question and Answers  
8.30 Good Evening  
9.00 News in Arabic  
9.50 Al Muhamiya: Arabic serial  
10.45 Min Alf Ala Alaya:



A Finite World examines Indian social and economic life.

variety show featuring Mohammad Al Mauji  
11.50 News Summary  
11.55 World News via Satellite  
12.20 Holy Quran/ Closedown

## KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran  
6.10 Noveltoons: car-

toons  
6.30 Break Point  
7.00 A Finite World: "India" Part 3 examines the fabric of Indian life, pollution, status of women and education  
8.00 News in English  
8.40 The Last Season: Part 3  
9.40 The Hit Squad: a series on practical jokes  
10.10 Bustin' Loose: "Snow Place."  
10.30 The Equaliser: "Something Green." A diplomat is involved in kidnapping his son and his wife seeks McCall's help to get back the child. Starring: Edward Woodward  
11.30 News Summary/ followed by Magazine D'Actualite/ Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

## ARAB TIMES GRAND

BINGO

COMPETITION NO. 69

## PRIZES

First Full House: KD 100  
Second Full House: KD 60  
Third Full House: KD 40  
Top Line: KD 25  
Four Corners: KD 25

Hurry! make sure you get your Arab Times

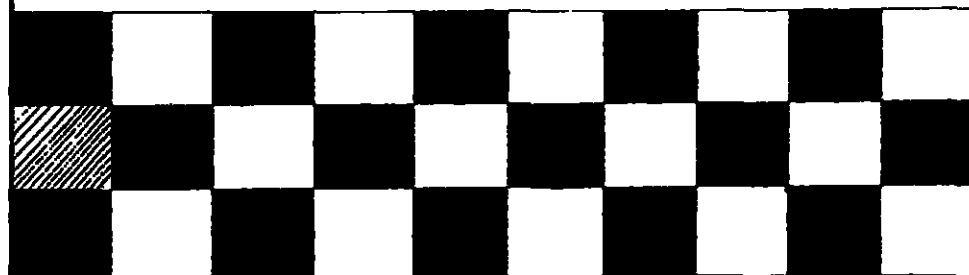
## HOW TO PLAY

1. Solve the clue underneath the entry card (below) and enter the number that you think is the answer in the shaded square on the left-hand side of the card. This square must be completed.
2. Now select a further 14 numbers between 1 and 90 inclusive and enter these in the remaining open squares. You should now have 15 DIFFERENT numbers on your card. Please write them clearly, in ballpoint or ink.
3. Fill in your name and address in the appropriate lines on the form, in block letters.
4. Make an exact copy of your 15 numbers on the copy card provided underneath, and keep it so that you can check off your numbers as they appear in the ARAB TIMES every day.
5. Register your Free Bingo entry by sending it to the ARAB TIMES. Read details below carefully.
6. Watch out for YOUR numbers each morning in the ARAB TIMES.

## FREE BINGO

No. 69

## ENTRY

ANSWER THIS CLUE IN THE SHADED SQUARE:  
UP AND DOWN

NAME (Mr./Mrs./Miss) .....

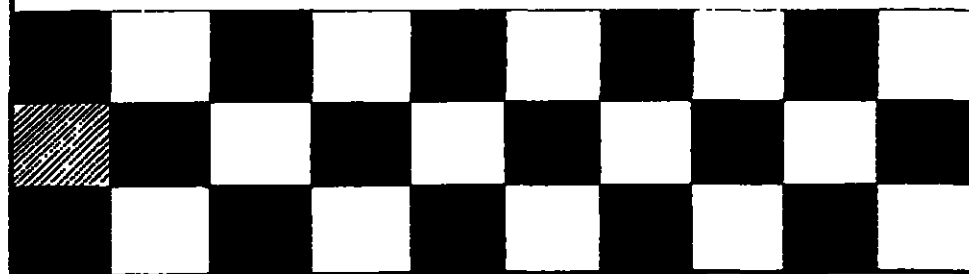
ADDRESS .....

IS YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE?

## FREE BINGO

No. 69

## COPY



## How to claim

EVERYDAY four numbers will appear on Page Two. A number may be repeated. If this happens, continue with the rest of the numbers. Check off on your copy card the number or numbers which coincide with your selected numbers. Do this every day.

Please make a note of the last number you checked off. I.e. the one that completes your claim. Claimants will be asked to give this number which will decide the allocation of prizes.

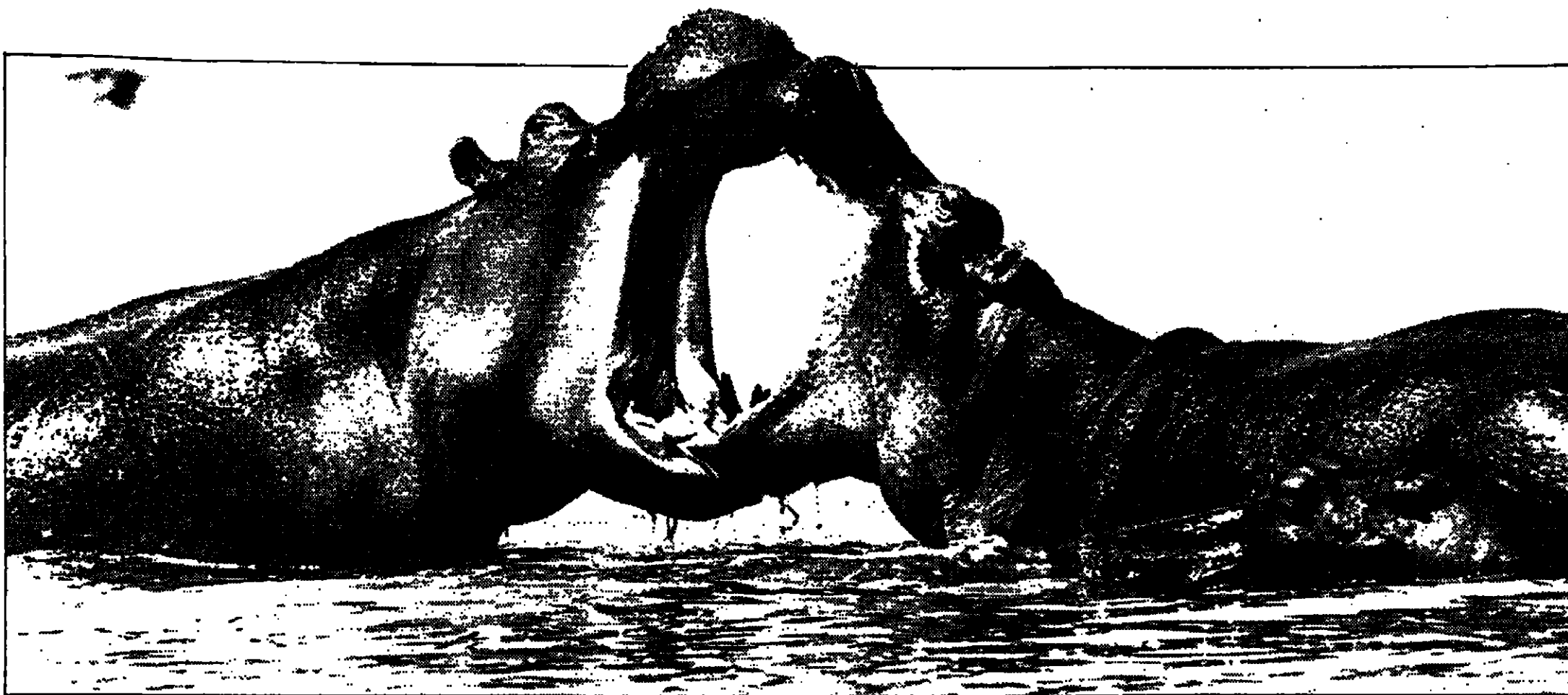
When you have a claim, phone: 4813566/272 or 287 between 12 noon and 1 pm. Claims after 1 pm WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. You or anyone telephoning for you must have your copy card when the claim is made.

Is the initial of your surname in the front of the envelope?

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE AND INITIAL OF YOUR SURNAME ON THE LEFT HAND TOP CORNER IN FRONT. This is essential for the speedy checking of claims. Entries received without names and initials as mentioned above will be disqualified. When you have completed your entry

card and copy card and filled in your name and address, send in your entries, by post, addressed to:  
Bingo.  
Arab Times.  
P.O. Box 2270.  
13023 Safat Kuwait.  
A surer alternative is to deliver by hand to the Arab Times, Al-Seyassah Building, Airport Road, Shuwaikh.





Facing up to a big problem: conservationists project that in 10 years there may be only 400 hippos left in Uganda

By Catherine Bond

AS the moonlight glints on the Kazinga channel in Western Uganda's Queen Elizabeth Park, the sound of hippos grunting wafts up from the water to Mweya Safari Lodge. After dark, visitors are warned to carry a torch lest they bump into a stray hippo munching its way along the paths.

On a trip on the river launch, you might be tempted to think that the seemingly plentiful hippo romping near the shore have escaped the ravages of war and economic decline. But the days when culling was deemed necessary to control an overcrowded hippo population are long since gone.

According to the Uganda Institute of Ecology, the park's hippo population of 14,000 in 1957 has dropped steadily almost year by year, to about 3,000 today. Conservationists project that in 10 years there may be only 400 hippos left. An average of one hippo is poached in the park every day.

Although Tanzanian troops, who routed General Idi Amin in

1979, slaughtered hippo at whim — leaving the lake shores white with bones — the chronic problem of hippo poaching lies not with soldiers, but with fishermen living within the park.

Fishermen kill hippo on a commercial basis, selling the meat to local people in the nearby Ruwenzori mountains, at prices which undercut beef, chicken or meat. The maximum poaching fine is 3,000 Uganda shillings (about £4) but meat from a hippo carcass fetches more than 10 times that.

However, in the past year, the park has stepped up its campaign to tackle the problem with a two-pronged approach: anti-poaching patrols have been re-equipped, and wildlife education intensified.

"Our message is no hippos, no fish," said Ponsiano Semwazi, Uganda's outgoing Director of Wildlife. "Hippos defecate in the

water, and the manure produces algae that fish feed on. We tell fishermen that if the hippos disappear, the fish will, too."

William Muhler, whose work is funded by the World Wide Fund for Nature and the West German government, heads the education project. "The hippos are poached not with guns but with traps and spears, and fishermen are heavily involved," he told me. "They don't eat the meat themselves, but they sell it to the Bakonjo tribe in the Ruwenzori. It is impossible to stop the market."

Nonetheless, Muhler thinks they could make headway by resolving grievances in about 13 fishing villages — most of them illegal — that have mushroomed in the park. One of the largest villages alone has an estimated 10,000 inhabitants. Under Amin, Muhler says, the fish licensing system "grew totally

out of control," sparking lasting animosity between the original fishermen and newcomers.

Many villagers would apparently like to move into one or two main spots, where they might have access to facilities such as schools. The worry of the park being denuded of trees could also be alleviated if the Ugandan government were to allow fishermen to salt their fish, instead of smoking them.

This was prohibited years back to stamp out smuggling, as the market for salted fish lies just across the border in Zaire. About two-thirds of more than 350 "poachers" arrested in 1988 were in fact firewood collectors. The education campaign is trying to encourage fishermen to plant wood lots. Another obstacle is persuading local people that saving the park actually benefits Ugandans.

Muhler and his wife, Ursula

Reif, said that when they first went into the village to give wildlife lectures, "people thought the park was only for white people in white Land Rovers."

The return of school trips to Mweya, and the large number of Ugandan families who spent last Christmas there, may improve this attitude. Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni often uses Mweya as a venue for talks with heads of state and foreign ministers — including Sir Geoffrey Howe, who had a close encounter with a hippo there last October.

John Otekat, acting Chief Warden, says two lorries — donated last February by the Muhler brothers (Peter Muhler runs the anti-poaching unit) on International Federation for African Wildlife funds — provided a big boost, to the morale of 80 game rangers in the park.

"We've been able to transport

our rangers to areas where poaching was taking place, and make a lot of arrests," Otekat said.

According to Muhler, the most pressing problem is poor salaries — 800 Uganda shillings per ranger a month, equivalent to less than £1. "The European Community puts millions of dollars into Uganda's national parks," he stated. "But nobody cares about the rangers, and in my opinion, they are the backbone of the park." Not surprisingly, some rangers have been suspended for poaching.

The issue of salaries is virtually insoluble. Outside donors cannot pay higher salaries without luring skilled labour away from the Ugandan government. However, they can supplement wages with food and equipment, and clothes for rangers' families. Most rangers say they rely on money from their wives, who sell smoked fish.

This pattern of underpaid, under-equipped staff is reflected in Uganda's other parks at Kidepo, on the Sudan border, and at Murchison Falls, which last year became insecure because of Holy Spirits rebels.

## Zimbabwe battling to save black rhino

By John Morrison

MANA POOLS, Zimbabwe. (Reuters): Somewhere in the dense bush south of the Zambezi River a volley of shots from an AK-47 rifle rings out.

A black rhino and its calf crumple into the sand. Within minutes, the poachers have chopped their horns off with an axe and have moved on, covering their tracks to evade detection.

If they make it back past the crocodiles across the river to Zambia, the horn could end up worn as a "jambia" or ornamental dagger handle by a young man in Yemen.

Or a wealthy Chinese businessman in the Far East might take it as a traditional medicine, powdered and mixed with water, to cure his arthritis. More valuable than ivory, easier to remove and lighter to carry, the rhino's horn — similar in substance to a toenail — is the favourite target of Africa's well-organised poachers.

Zimbabwe, home to around a quarter of the continent's surviving 4,000 black rhino, is in the middle of a desperate battle to succeed where other African countries have failed in ensuring their survival in the wild.

Mark Brightman, a senior ranger with the Department of Parks and Wildlife, co-ordinates operation stronghold, the anti-poaching effort in the Zambezi valley, from a disused water tower that serves as a makeshift operations room.

With no more than 100 men to cover 12,000 square km (4,500 sq miles) of dense bush, the anti-poaching teams face steep odds. Armed with FN rifles, the three-man patrols risk their lives for a monthly pay of around 200 dollars (\$100 US).

Scout Shingirai Jegacheya fired shots at a group of poachers in mid-November but the men escaped east, back into Zambia through Mozambique. Thanks to SAVE, a New York-based fund-raising group, he now goes on patrol with a powerful VHF radio to call for reinforcements if there is a contact.

"These radios are a big help," he says. "Everybody wants to see the poaching stopped. We want our children to see the rhinos too." The poachers come in groups of between four and 10 of whom one or two are armed with military weapons, either the AK-47 or the Chinese-made SKS.

"It's very easy to shoot rhino," he explains. One gang killed six in six hours. The 1988 slowdown was probably due to the fact that the remaining rhino are more thinly scattered and harder to find.

Protecting those left alive has become a war in which 47 poachers have been shot dead, more than 30 jailed and an unknown number killed by crocodiles crossing the river.

President Robert Mugabe, a keen conservationist, has authorised shoot-to-kill policy against poachers. But its future looks uncertain since the national parks acting chief warden Glen Tatham and two other men were arrested and charged with murder for killing a poacher in November.

National parks staff are bitter about the charges and blame a long-running local vendetta with the police in the Zambezi valley. All three arrested men have been freed on bail.

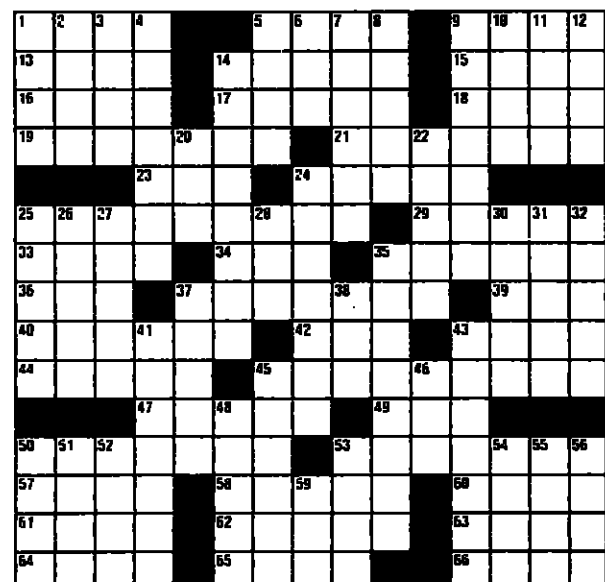
Brightman's radio crackles with military slang unchanged from the Rhodesian war of the 1970s: a stick (patrol) cuts poor (tracks) hoping for a contact (firefight) with the poachers who bombshell (split up) and gap it (run away).

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### TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Vipers
  - Noble Italian family
  - Links hazard
  - Caron/Ferril film: 1953
  - Music man
  - Ringo
  - Silver State city
  - Fervor
  - Order out
  - us a son...
  - Tanglewood event
  - Way to send a letter
  - Before, once
  - Dreamland
  - Woodwind instruments
  - Trattoria sauce
  - English emblem
  - Moslem chief
  - Make more substantial
  - MD's org.
  - Shelley's elegy to Keats
  - English Channel feeder
  - Try
  - Acted
  - King of comedy
  - Type of drum
  - Musical platform
  - Cereal blight
  - Abner modifier
  - Protect
  - Fine
  - Corker
  - 58 Vex
  - London district
  - Fetid
  - Erects
  - Relative of etc.
  - Informality
  - Classify
  - Lower
  - DOWN
  - One of the

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ELMO MEDIT DART  
PEAT ERROR ELEE  
INRI DOONE LIFE  
COLORADO KRAKEN  
SALIP EWERS  
RITES ENNEA  
ICE SUNDAY RATA  
CONVENE SEVERAL  
ANTI CIGADA IRE  
RHINO LEANS  
OMEGA ONSET  
POLISH KENTUCKY  
EDEN ISERE DONS  
RAMI LARVA EPEE  
ALIA TOYED SEER

### GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
BEST TURNS OUT SECOND-BEST

Both vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♦ A K 7 3 2  
♥ A Q 6 5 2  
♦ Q 10 6  
♣ Void

**EAST**  
♦ Q 10 9 4  
♥ 7  
♦ A 3  
♣ Q 8 7 6 3 2

**SOUTH**  
♦ 6 5  
♥ K 10  
♦ K J 9 8 5 2  
♣ K 10 4

The bidding:

South West North East  
Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 ♣ Pass 3 ♥ Pass  
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♦ Pass  
6 ♦ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Seven of ♣  
Watching Sunday afternoon football, how often have you seen a seemingly easy pass fall incomplete because the receiver takes his eye off the ball. Today's hand is the equivalent in bridge.

Note South's waiting bid of three spades. He wanted to see whether his partner's jump shift was based

on diamond support. When he learned that it was, he wasted no time in getting to slam.

West led a trump to his partner's ace, and a trump came back. When East followed, the hand seemed too easy for words. Declarer could ruff a club, discard one on a high heart and set up a long heart to take care of the other club. So he cashed the king of hearts and crossed to the ace, to find that he had encountered a disastrous split. His only remaining chance was that spades would divide evenly. But when that chance didn't materialize, the slam went abegging.

Declarer tackled his suits in the wrong order. See the difference if, after winning the second trump, declarer goes after spades first. When both defenders follow to two rounds of spades, it is a simple matter to set up a long spade by ruffing, crossing back with a club ruff for another spade ruff, then getting back with hearts to take two discards.

What if spades break 5-1? Then declarer still has time to go after the hearts, since he needs to ruff only one heart and to find a 4-2 break there to establish an extra trick.

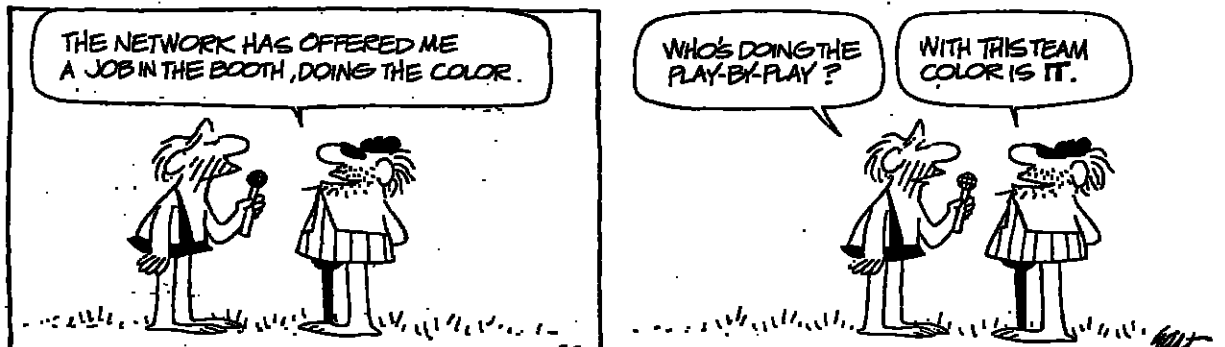
### THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



### YOUR STARS

**Aries (March 20 - April 18)**

Remember that only a bad workman blames his tools. You should try not to dither. Avoid changing the subject too frequently. Be sincere.

**Taurus (April 19 - May 19)**

You will not have a lot of time to spare so do not waste any of it. Mercury's influence will help you to avoid making a serious mistake. Do not allow yourself to get caught up in detail. Be polite.

**Gemini (May 20 - June 20)**

You will tend to bark up the wrong tree. If you are making mistakes using a typewriter, perhaps you are pressing the keys too hard. Jupiter's influence will help you to avoid falling into a trap. Be generous.

**Cancer (June 21 - July 21)**

By all means try a new method but do not expect to learn it overnight. You are facing a complex situation and must take care not to miss any essentials. Make sure you do not offend anyone. Be tactful.

**Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)**

Something that has been eluding you will suddenly come home to you. The Moon's influence will help you to do what you set out to do. Only you must make sure you do not aim too high, not too low either.

**Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)**

You should make sure you are on time for an appointment. Do not allow your attention to stray. You will not feel at your best today, so try hard to concentrate. Do not pay too much attention to small details. Be moderate.

**Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)**

You will be able to overcome what seemed at first like an insuperable problem. A tendency to lose sight of your objectives must be resisted. Make sure you do not do anything obviously injurious to your health. Be cordial.

**Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)**

You must try to avoid getting into an argument. Everything will take longer than you thought today. You will however be somewhat better at organizing yourself. Be reliable.

**Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**

Try not to think that your life depends on getting everything right. Allow yourself a little room for error. Mercury's better influence will help you to find the solution to an unusual problem. Be fair.

**Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)**

You will have to deal with a rather unpleasant person and should not lose your temper. If you show a little more goodwill and forbearance you will be well rewarded. Make sure your partner knows you love him. Be amenable.

**Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)**

Your patience will be well rewarded. You should not concern yourself with something that is none of your business. Mercury's better influence will help you to avoid making a mistake. Be sensible.

**Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)**

Something that has not been to your liking will take a turn for the better. You must make sure you have not left an important consideration out of account. Do not be resistant to change. Be considerate.

مكتبة منى



## Young nationalist



Mishari shares a secret with his one-year-old sister, Ma'ali



Above: Four-year-old Mishari Kamel proudly shows off his national costume, in a tent in the desert during the holidays.

## Young tennis champs



Above: Yousef Al Ibrahim, Khalid Al Banay and Hashem Farouz are three under-18 tennis champions. They won in the Arab Cup Championship. Congratulations!

Left: Hassan Aziz is a seven-year-old tennis player. He has recently participated in the NBK Tennis Tournament currently being held in Kuwait. We all wish you the very best of luck, Hassan, and hope to hear some pleasing results.



helps to quench thirst. They are also obliged to pay a certain sum of money (Zakat Al Fitr) per person in the family. The money to be paid should be the equivalent of 2.5 kilogrammes of the country's main dish (or the product itself). For example, in Kuwait the main meal is rice, thereby the zakat will be 2.5 kilogrammes of rice per person in the family, or its equivalent in money. To all the young Muslims who intend to fast this Ramadan, we are proud of you.

Manal

## The 2nd recited performance



At 6:00 pm on Wednesday, the 22nd of March, young dancers performed professionally on the grounds of the Kuwait English School.

The 130 dancers were of the ages four to fourteen years. Ballet dancers were from four to twelve years, while modern dancers were from nine to 14 years old.

The performance is an annual event and this is the second year it is occurring.

The children began rehearsing in January and their hard work was much appreciated by the audience.

Students of the school are of many nationalities and from many different academic schools. This dancing school is located in the Kuwait English School and welcomes all.



## Ha! Ha!

Have you heard the joke about the wall?  
I'd better not tell you — you might not get over it.

Have you heard the joke about the butter?  
I'd better not tell you — you might spread it around.

What is the largest mouse in the world?  
A hippopotamus-mouse.

What do you call an Eskimo wearing five balaclavas and a crash helmet?  
Anything you like — he can't hear a thing.

What do cannibals eat for breakfast?  
Buttered toast.

What do you call a constipated budgie?  
Chirrup of figs.

What did the policeman say to the three-headed man?  
"Allo, 'allo, 'allo!"

What did the German say to the broken clock?  
"Ve half vays off makink you tock!"

If a buttercup is yellow, what colour is a hiccup?  
Purple.

What do you give a pig with a sore nose?  
Oinkment.

What lies at the bottom of the sea and shivers?  
A nervous wreck.

## Introducing you to

## Alfie Howard



ALFIE Howard is a 76-year-old man who has a very unusual job. He is a town crier and has been for the past 42 years. He is of the fifth generation in his family to become a town crier and his grandson intends to follow on the tradition.

His family won the profession when one of Alfie's ancestors beat his opponent in a competition which was called when the old town crier died.

Alfie's uniform is exactly the same as that worn in the 17th century. It was made in 2000 hours of colourful, meticulous hand embroidery, by Alfie himself. His bell weighs

almost two and a half kilos and is 300 years old!

Alfie leads a very interesting life and has met many celebrities including most, if not all of the Royal family. He has travelled to the United States of America 78 times within 37 years and was the official town crier in the Tokyo Olympics. He led the British athletes in the Commonwealth Games of 1978 and was awarded the British Empire Medal in 1977 for Service to Great Britain.

Alfie is due to go on a trip with the Queen Mother in the near future and has been booked for a trip to Japan in 1992!

## Dear Junior Readers,

I hope you've had a wonderful Easter. It is a shame that the weather was not very pleasant on Easter Sunday but I suppose all of you made the most of it.

The next holy occasion now is the Islamic month of Ramadan. This is the month in which all Muslims must fast, meaning that they are not to eat or drink from dawn to dusk. Breakfast is with the sunset prayer, and just before dawn, Muslims eat a special meal to help survive throughout the day. This meal usually includes a glass of yoghurt as this



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

## ACCOMMODATION

### Available

DASMA, Area 1, Road 18, House 4. One room for a small family or two working girls. Tele. Mr. Nadir, 2403097, 2527235. (AT3-46651-3)

### For Rent

OMARIYA, House with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen and telephone. Tele. 4733110, 4714305. (AT4-MAM-TM-7)

QURTUBA, one floor of deluxe villa, CAC, with 5 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 3 bathrooms, intercom and separate entrance. Rent KD450. Tele. 5313656, 4-10 pm. (AT2-46633-3)

### FOR SALE

#### Miscellaneous

EUROPEAN style furniture for sale. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tele. Mr. David, 2465195 (work), 5339310 (home). (AT4-46661-3)

ROMAN and Islamic coins, 19th century, envelopes and old unused stamps and stamp errors for sale. Tele. Mr. Adel, 5388422, 8-10 pm. (AT4-46667-3)

LEONARD fridge, 50 piece dinner set, big dining table, complete bedroom set, 3 piece cupboard, new clothes and household items. Tele. 3615208, 10 am - 2 pm, 4-6 pm. (AT4-46663-2)

HAWALLI, near the cinema Al Andalus, Kairah Street, two rooms and saloon with complete household items (ground floor) for sale. Rent KD130. Tele. 2664429 (Res). (AT4-46662-3)

SALWA, a spacious 2 bedroom flat with a spacious hall, kitchen and bathroom. Newly fully furnished with phone. Tele. 5612029, 8 am - 2 pm, 5-9 pm. (AT2-46643-3)

MILTON Keynes, England. A new one bedroom house with garage, in a good location, 40 minutes train ride to central London. KD35,000. Good investment. Tele. Lawrence, 2432011 (office), 5744087 (res). (AT2-46628-3)

### Cars

VOLVO 264, 1977 special anniversary model, fully automatic, one owner since new. KD500. Tele. Mr. Nigel, 2642604, after 4 pm. (AT4-46665-3)

MERCEDES Benz 190, September 1987, unmarked, white with perfect blue cloth interior, 23,000 kms, one careful owner from new. Full MB service history with many extras available, in excellent condition. Current list price KD6,800 approximately, offered KD5,250. Tele. 2407396, res. 2413888, off. (AT3-TM-3)

ROVER SE 3500, 8 cylinders, in excellent condition, fully automatic, powerful AC, clean interior/exterior. No objection for mechanical inspection and test drive. KD1,500, ono. Tele. 2436222. (AT3-46653-3)

MITSUBISHI Galant 1985 model, red, manual, in excellent condition. KD1,250, ono. Tele. 4310598, res. after 2 pm. (AT2-46647-3)

MERCEDES Benz 230CE coupe, 1981 model, fully automatic, beige colour, with AC and 2 doors. Best offer. Tele. 4894315. (AT2-46644-3)

NISSAN Liberta 1985, white, 55,000 kms, automatic, insured up to 24.10.1989 with AC, 4 doors and sunroof, in good condition. KD1,100 or by instalments. Tel. 5653952. (AT2-46496-3)

## SITUATIONS

### Vacant

MAID required, Indian/Sri Lankan, for a small family with two children to live-in in Jleeb Al Shiyookh. Must speak English and have a transferable residence. Salary KD45. Tele. Mr. Mike, 2424731/33, 9 am - 12 noon. (AT3-46656-3)

## STAMPS FOR SALE

Kuwait 1923 to date. Able to supply collections from most countries of the world. At competitive prices. Buying — used Kuwait stamps paying 500 fils per 100 and unused stamps. Tel: 3824378 or call in at Office 7, over Piza Hut, Sea Street, Fahaeel. (AT3-46653-3)

## OWN YOUR FLAT IN BOMBAY

On easy instalments. Now that our first project is near completion, we offer one/two bedroom flats in our second project "Green View"

At Nalasopara, Bombay. For booking contact: Souk Al Safat, Mezzanine Floor, Office No. 4290. Tel: 2418466, between 5 and 8 pm.

## WANTED

### for immediate employment

Air-conditioning technicians and engineer. Must have knowledge of all types of air-conditioning units. Please contact Tel. No. 2651500

## intermarkets kuwait

### HAS IMMEDIATE VACANCIES FOR SECRETARIES

American or European experienced secretaries are needed for a leading Kuwaiti advertising agency. If you have previous secretarial experience, are able to assist management at high levels and can cope under pressure, please call us for a personal interview on 484-8846.

## For your advertisement

Please contact Advertising Department

4816326/  
Tel: 4816327

# MARKET PLACE

MAID required, Filipina, for a small family to live-in, in Ras Salamiya. Must speak English and have a transferable residence. Tele. 5738582, 10 am - 2 pm, 5-8 pm. (AT3-46655-3)

MAID required, for a small Pakistani family to live-in. Preferably able to speak English and Urdu. Residence permit will be provided. Tele. 2414592, 2419665, 9 am - 1 pm, 4-6 pm. (AT4-46666-3)

### Wanted

QUALIFIED young American civil engineer B.Sc. from California University, can read, speak and write both Arabic and English languages fluently, seeks immediate opening in a reputable engineering firm. Tele. 2402505 off. 3801692 res. (AT2-46632-3)

## SERVICES

### Transport

REQUIRED for a lady from Darwaza Abdul Razzak to near the Pakistan embassy from 3rd April, 7.30 am - 1.45 pm. Tele. Fernandes, 2445611, after 3 pm. (AT3-2445611-2)

## FOR RENT

Villas, half villas, flats, complete buildings, offices in all areas in Kuwait with or without swimming pool

**Qatar Real Estate**  
Tele. 2406592, 2406593

REQUIRED from the Dar Al Shifa Hospital to Ibn Sina Hospital and back. Timings: 7.15 am and back 1.15 pm. Tele. 2407415, 5-8 pm. (AT3-46659-3)

## LOST

PASSPORT No. B 561298 in the name of Mrs. Safia Bibi, Pakistani, lost in the City area. Finder please Tele. 2664725, 2611285. (AT3-K-MJ-TM-3)

## PETS

CAT, female, black and white, has thick black moustache. Lost on Mina Al Zour Beach on Feb 25. Reward offered KD50. Tele. Athur, 5337127; Salah, 5631658/2436116. (AT5-46589-6)

## AHEST

### MICROCOMPUTER CENTRE COMPUTER COURSES

Subject	Fees
DOS	KD.15/-
Word Processing	KD.40/-
Basic Programming	KD.40/-
Lotus 123	KD.40/-
Database III +	KD.60/-
Cobol Programming	KD.80/-

For further details contact tele: 2418090 1.30pm - 8pm.

## FOR RENT

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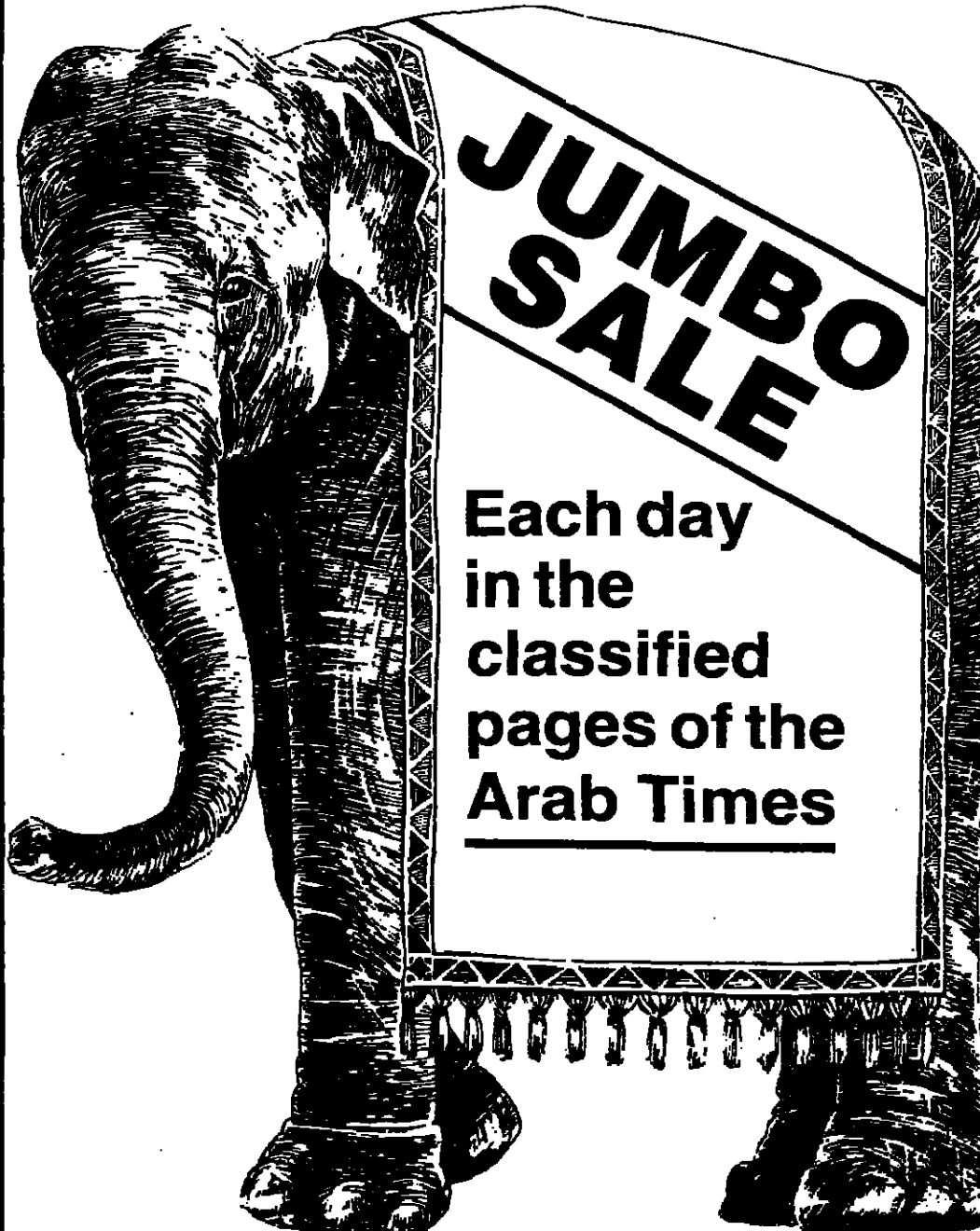
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مكة المكرمة

SPORTS

NBA and NCAA games

Celtics survive late Philadelphia rally for victory

NEW YORK, March 27, (AP) — Robert Parish had 30 points and 16 rebounds and the Boston Celtics survived a late Philadelphia rally for a 105-103 victory yesterday, despite 38 points and 15 rebounds by the 76ers' Charles Barkley.

The win moved Boston, 35-32, 1 1/2 games behind Philadelphia, 37-31, in the battle for the next-to-last playoff spot in the National Basketball Association's Eastern Conference and three games ahead of Washington for the final berth. Boston plays at Philadelphia tomorrow night.

Magic Johnson's jumper from the foul line as the buzzer sounded gave the Los Angeles Lakers a 118-116 victory over the Phoenix Suns in the only other NBA game last night.

Johnson, who led the Lakers with 34 points, also had 10 rebounds and 17 assists for his second straight triple-double and 15th of the season. With 20 seconds, he took the inbound pass and dribbled near the 3-point circle for 15 seconds before driving on Phoenix guard T.R. Dunn and stopping at the top of the key for his game-winning shot.

The Lakers broke a two-game home losing streak and moved four games ahead of the second-place Suns in the NBA's Pacific Division.

Meanwhile in New York, to get from their campus in Durham, North Carolina, to a spot among the final four — the four remaining teams in the post-season College Basketball Championship Tournament — the Duke Blue Devils prefer to go via New Jersey.

The Blue Devils advanced to the final four for the third time in four years yesterday by beating Georgetown 85-77 in the National Collegiate Athletic Association East Regional Championship. Duke has earned all three of its final four trips by winning the East Regional at East Rutherford, New Jersey, and is 6-0 in regional games played there.

"This has been a great place for us to play," Duke's Danny Ferry said.

Duke, 28-7, plays Seton Hall, 30-6, which beat Nevada-Las Vegas 84-61 on Saturday in the West final. Rounding out the final four, Michigan, 28-7, plays Illinois, 31-4. The Wolverines beat Virginia 102-65 on Saturday in the Southeast final, while the Illini beat Syracuse 89-86 yesterday to win the Midwest.

John Thompson, coach of the second-ranked Georgetown Hoyas, once again lost with a favourite. Only six months ago, his US Olympic team lost to the Soviet Union in the semifinals.

Christian Laettner beat Alonzo Mourning in the battle of young centers. Laettner made nine of 10 shots and scored 24 points, while Mourning scored just 11 points and was benched near the end of the game. Both Laettner and Mourning are first-year college students.

Mourning, a third-team All-American, took personal responsibility for the defeat.

Kenny Battle scored 28 points and Nick Anderson added 24 as the Illini overcame a 13-point deficit and advanced to the final four for the first time in 37 years.

New Zealand beat W. Samoa

SYDNEY, Australia, March 27, (AP) — New Zealand rallied in the second half to defeat surprise finalist Western Samoa 26-16 yesterday and win the Sydney International seven-a-side Rugby Union tournament at Concord Oval.

New Zealand fought back after trailing 10-4 at half time.

John Gallagher came on for Alan Crowther early in the second half, sparked the New Zealand attack and scored two individual tries.

Centre Scott Pierce also scored two tries to take his tally for the tournament to 11.

New Zealand qualified for the final by overwhelming Australia 28-0 and Western Samoa sprang the surprise of the eight-nation tournament by beating highly-rated Fiji 23-18 in the other semifinal.

In first round matches, New Zealand beat Argentina 18-10, Western Samoa downed the United States by the same score, Australia beat Wales 12-4 and Western Samoa trounced South Korea 36-6.

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May Allah rest her soul in peace in her permanent abode.

I am thankful to all those who shared my grief.

Mohammad Akram Chaudhry

Lendl and Evert advance into quarterfinals

Connors and Shriver upset in Players

KEY BISCAINE, March 27, (Reuters) — American Kevin Connors rallied from two sets down behind his strong serve to upset Jimmy Connors 4-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 in a four-hour, fourth-round match at the Players Tennis Championship yesterday.

The women's fourth seed, American Pam Shriver, fell to unseeded Jana Novotna of Czechoslovakia 7-5, 6-4.

Three of the top four men's seeds, including second-seeded Mats Wilander of Sweden and Americans Andre Agassi, seeded third, and Connors have been eliminated before the quarterfinals. Three of the top four women remain in the 128-player draws.

Top-seeded Ivan Lendl outslugged 15th seeded Andres Gomez of Ecuador 6-4, 6-2, 6-4 and second-seeded Chris Evert outlasted compatriot American,

ninth-seeded Mary Jo Fernandez, 7-5 6-2, sending both Lendl and Evert into the quarterfinals.

The 13th seeded Curran, 5-5 against Connors in career meetings, pointed to his ability to both rally with the fourth seeded Connors from the baseline and hold his own serve.

Trouble

"I just kept hanging in there on the baseline rallies. I give him trouble because I take away his best shot — his return of serve — with my first serve," Curran said.

Connors handled Curran's blistering right-handed service in the first two sets with his well-placed service returns, but after dropping his serve in the fourth game of the third set to fall behind 1-3, Connors could not recover.

Curran, 21st in the world, kept his momentum going in the fourth set, breaking Connors twice to go ahead 4-1. Although

Connors got one break back on three volleying errors from his opponent in the fifth game, Curran served his way into the fifth set, hitting an ace to close out the fourth set.

Broke

Curran broke serve in the first game when Connors netted a backhand and then again when he converted the second of three break points to go up 5-2 and served out the match in the next game, stabbing a backhand volley into the open court on his first match point.

Connors, eighth in the world, said that he was satisfied with his every part of his game, except his serve.

"Basically, I did everything right but win the match," said Connors, adding some self-criticism with a strong dose of expletives.

Shriver, who had difficulty with returning Novotna's serve

and getting her own first serve in, was not disappointed with the loss, something she attributed to her new-found attitude toward tennis.

Best

"I'm through with mourning tennis matches. After 11 years I can't expect to go out there and be at my competitive best every day," said Shriver.

But Shriver's flash of temper shortly after her defeat belied her comments about a calm approach to losing.

With Shriver standing nearby, a fan hugged Novotna for her victory. Shriver ripped sunglasses from the fan's head, saying later that it was tasteless to hug the winner in front of the loser.

Lendl, first in the world, controlled the left-handed serve of Gomez the entire match and used his powerful game to overwhelm Gomez for the sixteenth time in seventeen career meetings.



Chris Evert outlasts Jo Fernandez

Simpson overtakes Norman to win New Orleans golf

NEW ORLEANS, March 27, (Reuters) — American Tim Simpson found his putting touch to overtake Greg Norman of Australia and win the \$750,000 New Orleans Classic Golf Tournament yesterday.

Simpson shot a three-under-par 69 for a total of 14-under-par 274. Norman had an even-par 72 and dropped back into a tie for second place with American Hal Sutton at 12-under-par 276.

American Mark Hayes had a final round of 68 to place fourth.

The victory was the second of Simpson's 12-year career and was worth \$135,000. Norman and Sutton each collected \$66,000.

Simpson and Norman were tied for the lead as late as the 12th hole at 13-under-par, but Simpson birdied the 14th to move out

Finney wins LPGA Classic by one shot

PHOENIX, Arizona, March 27, (AP) — Allison Finney shot an even-par 73 in a rain-plagued final round yesterday to win the \$400,000 LPGA Turquoise Classic by one shot.

It was the first tournament victory in seven years on the tour for Finney, whose previous best was a second-place tie in the 1985 Hall of Fame Championship.

"I can't even believe it's happened yet. It's going to take a while before it sinks in," said Finney, who was eighth in this tournament in 1987 and tied for 11th in 1986. "My goal this year was to win, but that's been my goal for the last six years..."

Finney, 30, finished with a 10-under-par total of 282 to take the \$60,000 top prize.

Beth Daniel, who started the day one shot ahead of Finney, parred every hole except the par-3 second, where she four-putted

Howe wins St Patricks cup

ROBERT Howe, finally came out of a winless slump over several seasons to win the St. Patrick's day competition by a margin of two strokes. This annual golf event is held at the Hunting & Equestrian Club to contest the St. Patrick's and Leperchaun cups presented to the club by long time member Stan Marshall.

In the St. Patrick's cup competition, held for full members, Bob Howe (15) carded 38 points to win first place for Hassan Dahabiyah (22) with 36 points and Saud Al Hajri (10) who carded 34. In the Leperchaun cup, held for guest members, housewife Dierdre Brero, who hails from Ireland, playing excellent iron shots, won on the competition with the best score of the day, 39 points. Followed into the runner-up spot by C.K. Lum and into third place by H.R. Jung.

In side competition Dierdre Brero was able to win the longest drive competition for ladies on the par 4 tenth when her tee shot sailed 220 yards down the fairway. In the men's competition J.H. Chung produced the longest drive of the day on the par 4 sixth. The nearest to the pin competition, held on the difficult par 3 eighteenth, was won by the effervescent Pieter van Thiel.

Chinese supremacy may be on the wane

DORTMUND, West Germany, March 27, (Reuters) — News of China's demise as the dominant power in world table tennis has frequently proved premature.

But this time, with reigning singles champions He Zhi and Jiang Jialing dropped and off form respectively, even the Chinese themselves believe the end of an era may be witnessed at the world championships which open on Wednesday.

"It appears impossible for us to repeat the success given the current status of Chinese table tennis," said Chinese journalist Du Wenjie who thinks it more likely than not that a non-Chinese will win the men's singles.

No European has won the men's world crown since Hungarian Istvan Jonyer in 1975 and only one non-Chinese, Japan's Seiji Ono, has taken the title since then.

At each of the last three world championships China have lifted six of the seven gold medals on offer. At Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, in 1981 they swept the lot.

Missing

But new, young talent is missing in the squad for Dortmund and with the steady improvement of nations like Sweden and South Korea, Chinese head coach Xu Shaofa has said he expects the toughest world championships for many years.

The China daily newspaper shared his view. "With the rapid progress of the European men and the emergence of South Korea, China has lost its dominance and the possibility of winning six or all seven titles," it said.

China's star, which rose over Dortmund 30 years ago when Jung Kuotuan became the country's first men's world champion,

England and Hong Kong win

CARDIFF, Wales, March 27, (AP) — Alan Cooke of England won the men's singles title and Chai Po Wa of Hong Kong took the women's singles at the Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships as the two countries completed a sweep of all seven crowns yesterday.

Cooke beat Atanda Musa of Nigeria 21-13, 21-11, 21-13, in a final match that took just 30 minutes, while Chai won 21-16, 21-15, 21-8 over countrywoman Chan Tan Lui.

England also won the men's doubles crown, while Hong Kong took the women's doubles and mixed doubles.

Earlier, England won the men's team title, while Hong Kong took the women's team championship.

Capiot wins cycling race

ALSEMBERG, Belgium, March 27, (AP) — Belgian Johan Capiot outspun Dutchman Adri van der Poel in a steep climb to the finish yesterday and won the Brabant Arrow Cycling race for the second consecutive year.

Belgian Dirk Demol took third ahead of Dutchman Frans Maassen, Norway's Eric Pedersen, Marc Van Orsaw of the Netherlands and Belgian Edwig van Hooydonck. The pack trailed the lead group by several minutes.

Van Hooydonck and Van Orsaw gave the race away when they moved out in front in the final three (two miles). But distrusting each other, they refused to take the lead and the pace slowed so much that a chasing group of five could come back.

Swedish success defies the numbers

STOCKHOLM, March 27, (Reuters) — Sweden has 13,000 organised players, China has millions.

The numbers would seem to make it futile but the defiant Swedes intend to launch a strong European challenge to Asia's table tennis supremacy at the world championships in Dortmund, West Germany, starting on Wednesday.

Sweden can boast Europe's top quartet with reigning European singles champion Mikael Appelgren and the continent's second, third and fourth-ranked players, Jan-Ove Waldner, Erik Lindh and Jorgen Persson, who was the 1986 champion of Europe.

"There are three men's golds (team, singles, doubles) at stake in Dortmund and I hope one of them will go to Sweden," coach Glenn Osth told Reuters with characteristic Swedish caution.

Sweden's depth is astonishing for a country of only 8.4 million people where table tennis ranks far below national sports like ice hockey, skiing, soccer and tennis.

In addition to their four stars they are taking to West Germany the 1984 European singles champion Ulf Bengtsson, 1985 doubles world champion Ulf Carlsson and two young players rapidly moving up towards the elite — Thomas von Scheele, 20, and Peter Karlsson, 19.

How did the Swedes succeed where nations such as West Germany, with 700,000 licensed players, have failed?

The answer, says Osth, boils down to the same basics which are behind the country's high-profile success in tennis — municipal sports facilities and dedicated unpaid coaches all over the country, team spirit,

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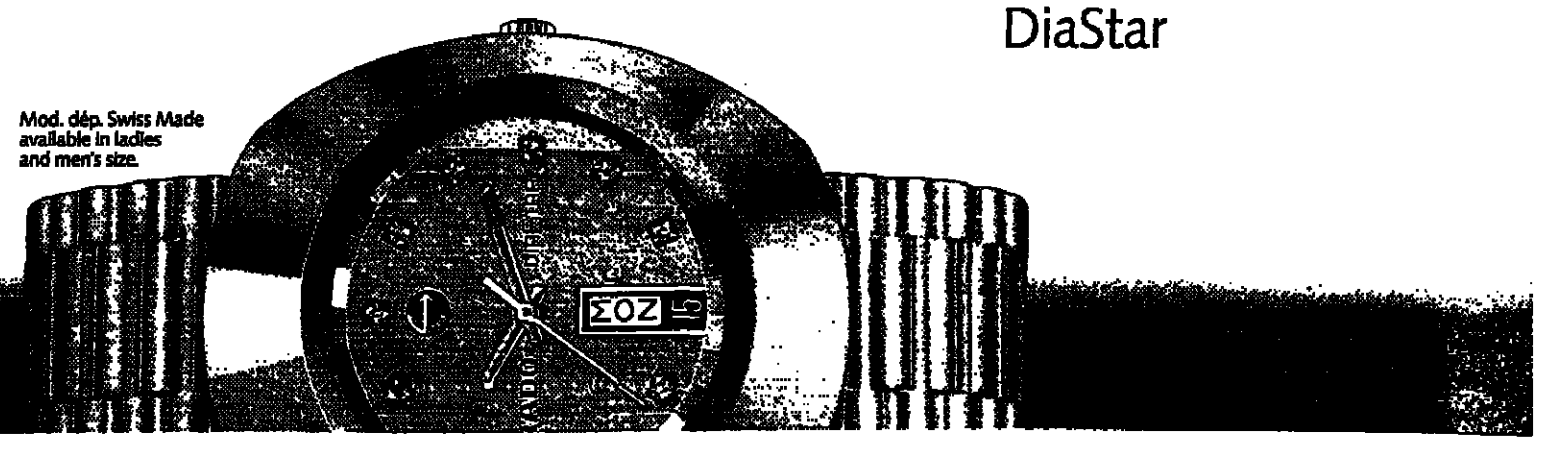
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## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Botham's return

SINGAPORE, March 27, (Reuters): England all-rounder Ian Botham picked up a cricket bat today for the first time since he broke down with a back injury last May.

All eyes were on Botham, who hopes to regain his England place in the forthcoming home series against Australia, as he practised here with his county club Worcestershire before a 50-over match tomorrow against a Singapore side.

## Shield final

PERTH, Australia, March 27, (Reuters): Scores on the third day of the five-day Sheffield Shield cricket final between Western Australia and South Australia today.

Western Australia first innings 535 (Tom Moody 162, Tim Zoehrer 81, Wayne Andrews 75, Graeme Wood 68, Geoff Marsh 55, Colin Miller seven for 112), South Australia first innings 275 for six (Brett Williams 69, Peter Sleep 49 not out).

## Table tennis

DORTMUND, West Germany, March 27, (Reuters): Ball boys and girls will be used for the first time at the world table tennis championships starting on Wednesday, organisers said today.

"We are putting the youngsters around the courts but to be perfectly honest I don't think they will have many balls to run after," organiser Manfred Schaefer said.

## Horse racing

DUBLIN, March 27, (Reuters): In a family affair, Maid of Money, a 10-1 chance ridden by Anthony Powell, won the Irish Grand National horse race at Fairyhouse today.

Powell's grandfather, Paddy, won the race 62 years ago while his father, acted as starter today.

## Cauten in action

LONDON, March 27, (Reuters): Steve Cauten rode a winner today on his first day back in action in England after breaking his neck in a fall at Goodwood six months ago.

The American partnered Epsom Derby prospect Ceciliano to a 25-length success in the fourth race at Kempton.

## No bridge

NO bridge games will be held at the Sheraton Hotel today.

## IAC badminton

THE IAC badminton tournament which was inaugurated yesterday started in full swing. Today's fixtures:

7-8 pm: Men's Doubles: Alex Mathew and K.S. Jinan vs Sudhir Walvekar and Anil Raun; P.K. Mankad and Dr. Srivastava vs Mathew Jacob and Jacob Mathew; S. Narayan and Dr. Mathew vs P.C. George and Mathew Thomas; R. Suresh and Rajesh vs T. Mathew and Shankar.

Boys Singles: 8-9 pm: Kapil Nagi vs Mathew Jacob; Rajesh vs Geku George; Sunant Sharma vs Suresh R.

Veterans Singles: Robert Henry vs Shankar. 9-10 pm: Men's Singles: Reji Joseph vs George Tharian or C.V. Mathews; C.A. Hasan vs M.G. Chacko or Sajju Thomas; Cherry George vs K. Vijayan or Sanjay Sharma.

The tournament was inaugurated yesterday by the visiting Member of Parliament Thomas Kuthiravattom at 6.45 pm in the presence of I.A.C. president M. Mathews which is sponsored by P.K. Marwah and Jashanmal & Partners.

## Third straight win in world championship

## Biasion drives Lancia Delta to Safari Rally victory

NAIROBI, Kenya, March 27, (AP): Massimo "Miki" Biasion, forging into the lead after a team-mate ran into a herd of sheep, drove his Lancia Delta Integrare to victory today in the Marlboro Safari Rally.

"I am very satisfied because the road conditions were terrible," the 31-year-old Italian said at a news conference. "The last leg was the worst."

**Slippery** Only 13 of 58 cars finished the 4,217-kilometre (2,614 mile) endurance test over slippery mountain passes, scorching desert trails and through mud holes that swallowed many of the entries.

It was the second consecutive Safari Rally triumph for the Italian driver and team and their third straight victory on the World Rally Championship circuit this year.

Biasion, last year's world rally driving champion, finished the Kenya race with 6:45:47 unofficial penalty points, 1:66:84 ahead of his closest rival.

Second place in the tortuous, five-day race went to Kenyan Mike Kirkland driving a Nissan 200SX. That duplicated his finish last year and he summed up his frustration by telling repor-

ters: "I am hoping they (Lancia) will go to another rally next year."

Kirkland, driving for the Tokyo factory team that won the Safari Rally in 1979, '80, '81 and '82 under its old Datsun trade-name, finished with 8:12:11 penalty points, while Sweden's Stig Blomqvist was third in a Volkswagen Golf GTI 16V at 9:12:39.

## Finishers

The other finishers were Sweden's Bjorn Waldegard, Toyota Supra, 9:44:23; Kenyan Ian Duncan, Toyota Supra, 9:54:28; Kenyan Vic Preston Jr., Nissan 200SX, 10:33:21; New Zealand's Peter "Possum" Bourne, Subaru, 10:33:45; West Germany's Erwin Weber, Volkswagen Golf GTI 16V, 11:01:10; Kenyan Jim Heather-Hayes, Subaru, 11:06:57; Italy's Alessandro Fiori, Lancia Delta Integrare, 12:16:12; Kenyan Jayant Shah, Nissan 200SX, 15:12:48; Briton Lynda Morgan, Nissan March Turbo, 25:40:18; and Kenyan Sebastian Tham, Range Rover, 26:16:10.

Rally drivers are required to cover specified distances within certain periods and penalty points are the minutes a driver is

late in arriving at checkpoints. The unofficial results must be verified by rally officials, but they said there was little chance of change in the finishing order.

Biasion's teammate, Jorge Recalde, was forced out of the race yesterday when his Lancia ran into a herd of sheep, damaging its radiator and oil cooler. The Argentinian had taken the lead near the halfway point, with Biasion lying a close second.

## Standings

1. Massimo "Miki" Biasion, Italy, Lancia Delta Integrare, 6:45:27  
2. Mike Kirkland, Kenya, Nissan 200SX, 8:12:11  
3. Stig Blomqvist, Sweden, Volkswagen Golf GTI 16V, 9:12:39  
4. Bjorn Waldegard, Sweden, Toyota Supra, 9:44:23  
5. Ian Duncan, Kenya, Toyota Supra, 9:54:28  
6. Vic Preston, Kenya, Nissan 200SX, 10:33:21  
7. Peter "Possum" Bourne, New Zealand, Subaru, 10:33:45  
8. Erwin Weber, Germany, Volkswagen Golf GTI 16V, 11:01:10  
9. Jim Heather-Hayes, Kenya, Subaru, 11:06:57  
10. Alessandro Fiori, Italy, Lancia Delta Integrare, 12:16:12



Biasion (right) sprays his navigator Tiziano Siviero with champagne as they celebrate their second Safari Rally victory. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Norwich restore title challenge with 2-0 win

LONDON, March 27, (Reuters): Norwich restored their English League soccer title challenge with a 2-0 win at bottom club West Ham today.

After a surprise defeat at home to struggling Newcastle on Saturday, Norwich badly needed to bounce back and they did just that with goals from Andy Linighan (61st minute) and Malcolm Allen (86th).

## Lifted

The victory lifted Norwich to 56 points, three behind leaders Arsenal with a game in hand and five clear of third-placed Liverpool. Neither Arsenal nor Liverpool played on Monday.

Millwall lost their chance of leap-frogging Liverpool when they were beaten 1-0 at home by London neighbours Wimbledon, a 55th minute John Fashanu penalty settling the issue.

Two minutes later Millwall striker Teddy Sheringham was sent off for a foul on Terry Phelan.

## Results

English Division One  
Coventry 2 Southampton 1  
Middlesbrough 3 Everton 3  
Millwall 0 Wimbledon 1  
Newcastle 1 S Wednesday 3  
Nottingham 2 M United 0

QPR	1	Aston Villa	0
West Ham	0	Norwich	2
English Division Two			
Barnsley	1	Sunderland	2
Birmingham	3	Sheff Wed	2
Blackburn	2	Sheff Utd	2
Bournemouth	1	Leicester	1
Bradford	1	Hull	1
Crystal Palace	2	Brighton	2
Man City	2	Sink	1
Oxford	1	Walsall	1
Plough	4	Nottingham	2
Portsmouth	2	Watford	2
West Brom	3	Oldham	1
Scottish F.A. Cup quarterfinal replays			
Dundee United	1	Rangers	1
GMT			
St. Johnstone	1	Morton	1
GMT			
English Division Three			
Aldershot	1	Reading	1
Blackpool	0	Brentford	0
Bolton	1	Preston	0
Bristol City	3	Bury	0
Fulham	1	Gillingham	1
Huddersfield	1	Chesterfield	1
Northampton	2	Southend	1
Port Vale	1	Millwall	1
Sheff Utd	1	Nottingham	1
Swansea	1	Cardiff	1
Wigan	3	Cheltenham	0
Wolves	0	Rotherham	0
English Division Four			
Doncaster	1	Cambridge	1
GMT			
Grimby	1	Lincoln	0
Halifax	1	Derby	0
Hartlepool	0	Scunthorpe	0
Hedderford	1	Exeter	1
Peterborough	3	Colchester	0
Rochdale	1	Stockport	1
Stockport	1	Torquay	1
Tranmere	1	Leiston	1
GMT			
Wrexham	4	Bury	1
York	0	Scarborough	0

## KIFCO lift Gulf Air trophy again

KIFCO won the Gulf Air cricket trophy for the second time in a row when they beat Starlite by seven wickets on Friday. The trophy was organised by K.C.L. and played at the Sabah Al Salem ground.

Starlite won the toss and opted to bat first, opening their innings with in-form Iqbal Junior and skipper Iqbal Rizvi. They started strongly by taking 22 runs in the first two overs but the strength was short-lived.

Iqbal Junior was deceived by Amin and bowled for 22 and then from the other end Mansoor had the stumps of incoming Badar shattered for three. Hard-hitting Maqsood Thekedar was run out by an excellent throw from Pervaz Aslam and with Iqbal Rizvi having caught by Rashid Ansari off Mansoor Starlite were in trouble with 61 for four in 11th over.

## Partnership

Then came a solid partnership between Qayyum and Javed Kaloo who scored 136 runs. Qayyum's innings ended when he was caught superbly by S.P. Khan off Riflat for 63 and then wickets started to tumble with regularity and Starlite were all out for 219 in the 32nd over. Javed Kaloo remained not out.



KIFCO captain Aqueel Ashraf (right) receiving the Gulf Air trophy from Saleh Al Kindy.

For KIFCO Riflat bowled exceptionally well by capturing four wickets for 38 runs in his quota of nine overs. Mansoor and Aqueel bagged two wickets each. KIFCO's Amin and Pervaz Aslam fielded superbly.

KIFCO started their reply through Tariq and Arshad and scored 84 runs when Arshad was bowled by Iqbal Junior for 34. Nasir joined Tariq and the total reached 143. Tariq was stumped off Badar for 63.

Riflat came and went for seven and this brought S.P. Khan to join Nasir and they carried the score to the winning target without much problem. Nasir remained not out on 83 runs which earned him the Man of the Match award which is a return air ticket to London by Gulf Air.

At the end of the match Gulf Air general manager Essa Al Kifco presented the trophy to Kifco skipper Aqueel Ashraf and distributed prizes to both the teams. As a gesture of goodwill Kifco requested Ashraf Khan, general manager KIFCO to keep the trophy by their two consecutive wins instead of three.

## QMCC clinch Ihsen Memorial trophy

QUAID-E-MILLAT (QMCC) beat New Pak Eleven in the finals of Ihsen Memorial one-day cricket match, limited by 10 overs, at Safeway ground which was organised by Sabah tournament committee.

In the first semifinals QMCC beat Siddique Club by nine runs. QMCC scored 76 for three wickets in eight overs. Hameed 29 and Ashraf Rana 30 were the main scorers. In reply Siddique Club managed to score only 67 runs in 7.1 overs being all out.

In the other semifinal New Pak Eleven beat Punjab Farwaniyah by eight wickets. Punjab scored 58 runs. New Pak reached the target in the sixth over.

In the final match QMCC won the toss and elected to bat, Ijaz and Hameed opened the innings and scored 50 runs in just 3.4 overs.



QMCC captain Ansar receiving the trophy.

In the fifth over Ijaz was bowled for 32 runs. Ashraf Rana joined Hameed and both took the score to 116. At the end of the allotted overs, Hameed had scored 50 not out, while Rana remained unbeaten on 31. Mohd Ali and Hameed opened the innings for New Pak but failed to attain the required run rate. They scored 91 runs for the loss of 5 wickets. Mohd Ali scored 40 runs. Hameed was named Man of the Match. After the match prizes were distributed to both teams.

## India score 86 for one against W. Indies

GEORGETOWN, March 27, (Reuters): Play on the third day of the first cricket Test between West Indies and India today was abandoned without a ball being bowled because of rain.

Today will count as the rest day and the match will resume tomorrow. India were 86 for one in their first innings in reply to the West Indies' 437 all out at close of play yesterday, the second day of the first cricket Test.

West Indian Richie Richardson hit a Test best 194 yesterday as the West Indies took charge on the second day.

Resuming at 273 for five the West Indies were all out for 437. Richardson's marathon 439-minute innings beat his previous Test best of 185 against New Zealand four years ago on the same Bourda Ground.

Richardson scored only 32

runs before lunch, overshadowed by Gus Logie, who made a cultured 46 from 98 balls out of their stand of 87 in 32 overs.

But Logie, who had lifted Narendra Hirwani over long-on for six as well as collecting six fours, momentarily lost his concentration with lunch only minutes away and drove a Hirwani full toss straight back to the bowler.

## Caught off

After Richardson and Jeff Dujon, who hit five boundaries in his 31, had put on 55 in an hour, the loss of both in the same over to Arshad Ayub began a late order collapse.

The last four wickets went down for 25 in five overs, all victims of Ayub who ended with five for 104.

In four previous Tests against the West Indies Ayub had taken only six wickets.

Richardson was caught off a mis-hit at mid-wicket after he had tried to clear the fielders. It was his ninth Test hundred, but his first against India. Richardson faced 367 balls and struck 20 fours.

Dujon was trapped leg before by Ayub who later had revenge on pacemen Winston Benjamin and Courtney Walsh, who had both hit him for a six.

When India batted they lost Arun Lal for nine with the score on 14, but Navjot Sidhu (42) and Ravi Shastri (29) survived until the close.

## Scoreboard

WEST INDIES first innings (overnight 273 for five)  
G. Greenidge b C. Sharma 82  
D. Haynes b Ayub 20  
R. Richardson c Shastri b Ayub 194  
K. Arthurson run out 9  
V. Richards b Kapil Dev 5  
I. Bishop lbw b Kapil Dev 8

G. Logie c and b Hirwani	46
J. Dujon lbw b Ayub	31
C. Ambrose not out	13
W. Benjamin c C. Sharma b Ayub	7
C. Walsh b Ayub	24
Extras (lb-5 w-4 nb-15)	24
TOTAL	437
Fall of wickets: 1-41 2-219 3-231 4-270 5-270 6-357 7-412 8-413 9-423	
Bowling: Kapil Dev 28-6-67-2, C. Sharma 28-2-68-1, Shastri 33-6-87-4, Ayub 30-5-4-104-5, Hirwani 29-2-106-0	
INDIA first innings (overnight 86 for one)	
A. Lal c Richardson b Walsh	9
N. Sidhu not out	42
R. Shastri not out	29
Extras (lb-1 nb-5)	6
TOTAL (for one wicket)	86
Fall of wicket: 1-14	
To bat: D. Venkataratnam, M. Azharsingh, Kapil Dev, S. Manjrekar, K. More, A. Ayub, C. Sharma, N. Hirwani	
Bowling to date: Ambrose 3-2-6-0 (nb-2), Bishop 9-3-16-0 (nb-2), Benjamin 11-2-27-4, Walsh 6-0-12-1 (nb-1), Richards 7-1-17-0, Arthurson 3-0-7-0	

## Real and Barcelona warm up for clash

AMSTERDAM, March 27, (Reuters): Spanish giants Real Madrid and Barcelona warmed up for their possibly decisive clash next Saturday with wins over lesser opponents at the weekend.

Real's Emilio Butragueno, whose 60th minute strike against Real Valladolid broke a month-long goal fast in the League, showed a welcome return to form after being left on the bench against PSV Eindhoven in the European Cup quarterfinal 10 days ago.

**Stunning** And Mexican Hugo Sanchez, whose stunning first-half bicycle kick set Real on the way to a 3-2 win, took his season's tally to 19, making him the League's second

most prolific scorer after Atletico Madrid's Brazilian wizard Baltazar De Morais on 24.

Such individual touches pleased Real coach Leo Beenhakker, though he was less happy with the team's display as a whole.

"I liked my team ... but we made life difficult for ourselves in little things," he said.

**Injury** "Individuality is one of our weapons ... one of the things that makes this Real side great. There are several players who can score at any moment, whether the team as a whole is playing well or not."

Barcelona, missing striker Jose Bakero with an ankle injury that could put him out for four

months, will hope to rely on Julio Salinas, whose two goals on Saturday gave them an untroubled win over lowly Real Betis in Seville.

A win for Real when they visit Barcelona on Saturday would put the championship virtually beyond doubt, giving them a five-point lead and a game in hand. Barcelona desperately need victory to cut that lead to just one point and keep their hopes alive.

**Drew** A yawning gap separates the two clubs from the rest of the League. Nearest challengers Valencia drew 0-0 at the weekend against Athletic Bilbao to fall 15 points behind Real.

## Unity lifts Al Mulla Mitsubishi Cup

FAVOURITES Unity overcame a spirited challenge from Al Hilal to lift the prestigious Al Mulla Mitsubishi Cup for the second consecutive time at the Ahmadi grounds. The 1-0 margin was definitely not a fitting one for this exciting final.

Early in the game, Al Hilal had a try at the Unity goal. Captain Asif sent a through ball to Mahmoud on the left flank whose apt cross was met by Soubail but his hit was wide off the target. Thereafter, it was Unity who mounted the pressure and deservedly got the winner.

**Dribbled** Unity skipper Afra Lopez (who incidentally was the outstanding player of the finals) passed the ball to Naser who dribbled past a defender and flicked the ball to Liaqat. Liaqat moved into the striking circle and passed to Iftekar, whose first time scoop was well intercepted by goalkeeper Zahid. This caused a melee in front of the goal and Saber scored to put Unity 1-0 up.

After Union team Unity's Naser, Liaqat and Iftekar mounted pressure and nearly increased the margin but in the melee Unity's outside right Jeff pushed wide of an open goal. Time and again Zahid and left full back Akhter came to the rescue of Al Hilal.

At the other end Al Hilal searching for an equaliser, mounted

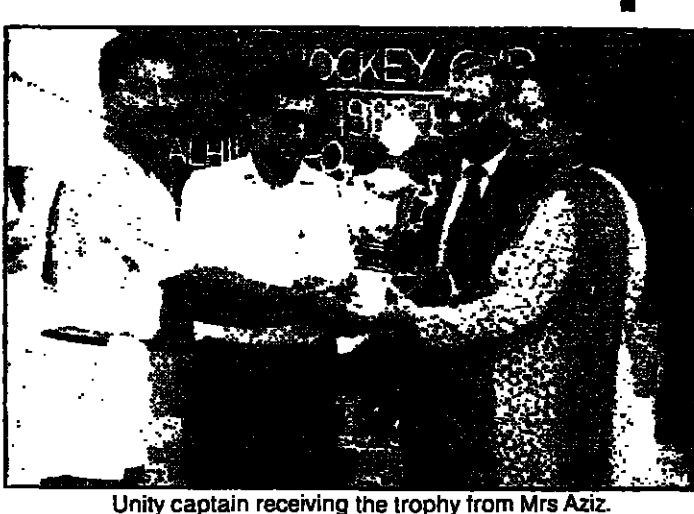
pressure through Asif, Gohar and Zubair. But their intermittent attacks were aptly subdued by Afra and Khalid.

In the dying minutes of the game, Naser's excellent solo run off a Liaqat pass was well saved by Al Hilal goalkeeper Zahid.

Honorary secretary of Unity Mohd Naem thanked the sponsors, Al Mulla and all the participating teams who helped to make this tournament a success.

Mrs Aziz, wife of commercial vehicles manager at Al Mulla, presented the trophy to Unity captain Afra and individual gifts to the winners and runners up.

Unity plays in the semifinals of Al Hilal Cup against Cosmos on Friday.



Unity captain receiving the trophy from Mrs. Aziz.



Unity team with officials.

## Pirelli to relive first motorsport victory

IN a commemorative drive from Peking to Paris in an Itala car, Pirelli is going to use tyres like those with which it won its first motorsport victory 82 years ago in 1907. Pirelli built 50 such tyres.

The previous marathon event in which the Itala car covered a distance of 16,000 kms on Pirelli cord tyres in a record 60 days, was reported by a famous journalist Luigi Barzini in Corriere Della Sera newspaper of Italy and Britain's Daily Telegraph.

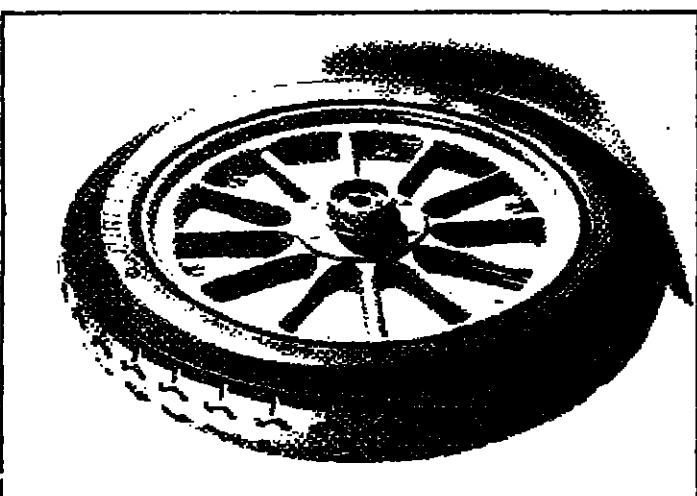
**Restored** The old Itala has now been restored by Fiat group and the 22,000 kms 1989 drive has been organised to commemorate the 90th anniversary of Fiat's foundation. The car will carry messages of friendship from the President of Italy, Francesco Cossiga, to the heads of state of the countries through which it will be driven.

The mastermind behind producing the 50 tyres was Ing. Mario Mezzanotte with whose tyres Pirelli won 22 world motorsport championships since 1972. They had to start a blind

development programme from the scratch, carefully going back to the original point and build tyres afresh for the 1907 Itala, which produced 45 brake horse power from its 7433 cc, 4 cylinder engine. This was a job in contrast with their recent development of Pirelli's P Zero super tyre for the 480 bhp Ferrari F40 - the fastest Ferrari ever built.

Mezzanotte and his group eventually developed the "new" Pirelli cord tyre which weighs 2,000 kg, fully laden, and was extensively tested over a widely differing terrain, including unmade surfaces, cobbles, deep mud, asphalt roads, high altitude mountain roads, steeply inclined ascents and descents, through rivers and streams.

The Pirelli fitted Itala has already started on March 16 from Peking and will cover its 22,000 kms in 90 stages, taking about 100 days. From China, the car will follow the old "silk road," moving on through Pakistan, Iran, Turkey, Russia, Poland, East and West Germany, Holland, Belgium and is



New Pirelli cord tyre.

expected to arrive in Paris on June 20. The drive will cover 6,000 more kms than the 1907 race, to ensure that the car is more widely seen.

This event will be covered by a mobile RAI TV programme production centre for weekly

Italian Television bulletins on the Itala's progress. Interestingly, the RAI TV team includes Andrea Barzini, grandson of Luigi Barzini, the journalist who is successfully chronicled the Italian team's race to victory in 1907.

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